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A Message From the Commanding Officer

Once again I am glad of this opportunity of sending a word of greeting to all Old Comrades and former members of the Regiment through the medium of The Springbok. Since the last edition of our Regimental magazine appeared, I have had the pleasure of meeting many more of your numbers and I feel, that with each succeeding year, the ties which bind us together are more firmly strengthened. I wish also to take this opportunity of thanking you all for the loyal support which you have continued to show me. We, the serving members of the Regiment, value your support very highly. Your loyalty and devotion to your old Regiment are a continued reminder to us of our proud duty to uphold the history and traditions which each of you have helped build.

To the present serving members of the Regiment I send a special greeting. During the past year we have together faced many a challenge. In meeting each challenge we have immeasurably added to our own strength and achieved a "oneness" which might well be the envy of many. A Regimental "team" spirit such as is ours today is not easily achieved and must not be regarded lightly. With it all things are possible. Without it little can be accomplished.

As the present year draws toward its close there can be few of us who do not wonder what the coming year may hold in store. Supported as I am by your loyalty and devotion to duty I face the future with complete confidence. Though the tasks which lie ahead may well be great, yet they can hold for us no fear, faced as they will be with confidence in ourselves and our aims and faith in our cause.



COLONEL G. J. H. WATTSFORD



LIEUTENANT-COLONEL J. F. MERNER

In May, Lieutenant-Colonel G. J. H. Wattsford our Commanding Officer for the last two years, turned over command of the Regiment to Lieutenant-Colonel J. F. Merner.

Lieutenant-Colonel Merner has had a distinguished military career having served as a Squadron Commander and Commanding Officer of the 8th Canadian Reconnaissance Regiment (14th Canadian Hussars) in World War II, later commanding the 2/7 Canadian Reconnaissance Regiment (17 D.Y.R.C.H.) in the Occupation Forces. Just prior to his appointment to the Regiment Lieutenant-Colonel Merner commanded the Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians).

Lieutenant-Colonel Wattsford left the Regiment to take up his appointment as Commanding Officer of the Officer Candidate School, Camp Borden. Recently we were pleased to hear Lieutenant-Colonel Wattsford had been promoted to Colonel and appointed to command the R.C.A.C. School. Congratulations, sir.

The Royal Canadian Dragoons extends a fond farewell to Colonel and Mrs. Wattsford and a sincere welcome to Lieutenant-Colonel Merner our new Commanding Officer.

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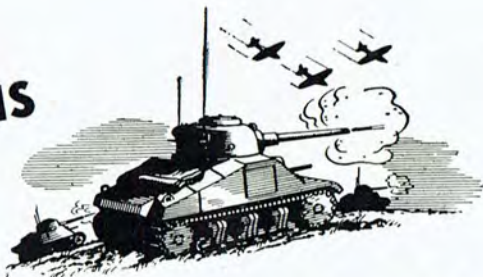


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the R.C.D.s on the trek and in the stirring
events of the Eastern Transvaal 1900".*

R. E. W. Lunn



THEN AND NOW

THE YEARS BETWEEN 1918-1939

For the reader who has periodically heard the words "Well before the War" we have been able to get the following article from Lt.-Col. R. S. Timmis, D.S.O., who has so kindly allowed us to use it.

Before the First World War the R.C.D. bought its horses mostly in the west, and for many years much of the buying was done by that great judge of horseflesh, General Lessard, who had commanded the R.C.D. from 1895 to 1907. These mounts made excellent troop horses. Between the wars most of the buying was done in Ontario and Quebec, and the majority of the mounts were half-bred. Two hundred dollars was the amount allowed for each horse, and when buying direct from the breeders and farmers no trouble was encountered in obtaining plenty of horses of the right type.

The buying was done by the Veterinary Officer and the Squadron Commander and the results were excellent. Standards were height from 15.2 hands to 16.0 hands and weight from 1050 lbs. to 1200 lbs. Four-year olds were the most common purchases with a few three- and five year olds. Because the dealers bought up most of the geldings, most of the regimental mounts were mares. Buying was generally done in the fall, so that the horses could get the benefit of a full winter's training.

The preference in colour was bays, so that a musical ride of all bays could be put

on, but browns, blacks and chestnuts were also purchased. At times one had to take what one could get. The first thing that was looked at was the head and eye; if that was no good there was no need to look any further. If satisfactory, the other considerations were: four good feet, good shoulder, good legs, round body, well ribbed up, strong loins, good neck and strong hocks.

At each station, Toronto and St. John's, P.Q., there was a remount staff under an officer and a warrant officer. The remounts went through a one year course based on the methods used at the Weedon Cavalry School in Britain. After this, unless the horse was taken over as an officer's charger, it was put on a musical ride before being passed out as trained.

The regiment was famous throughout Ontario, Quebec and New York State for its musical ride, put on in full dress—scarlet tunics, brass helmets with black plumes, white gauntlets, high jack-boots, and lances with red and white pennants. There was always a ride put on at the Canadian National Exhibition at Toronto, and, after 1922 at the Royal Winter Fair in the Coliseum in Toronto. The ride was timed to last fifteen to twenty minutes and was always a very popular event. The one at the Exhibition attracted thousands of American visitors every year. The thirty-two who made up the ride performed also at the National in New York and also at

other New York State centres, as well as throughout Ontario and also in Montreal and other Quebec towns.

Royal escorts, in full dress were also provided by the regiment for the Governor General and Royal visitors, such as the Prince of Wales in 1919 and 1927, and the King and Queen in 1939. In the latter case we provided four separate escorts in Toronto, Hamilton, Ottawa and Niagara Falls. The regiment, too, provided escorts for the provincial Lieutenant-Governors at the opening and closing of the provincial legislatures.

The men of the regiment were recruited from Ontario and Quebec mostly, with some few from Britain. All ranks took an active interest in all sports, particularly mounted sports. This became extremely noticeable in the field of horse shows after 1925, when the International Jumping teams were started in Toronto, New York and Boston. From their inception till 1935, all members of the Canadian Army Jumping team were from the R.C.D. In the first National Show in the new Madison Square Gardens, in 1926, there were seven teams entered and Canada was third. For several years the team was composed of Major R. S. Timmis, Capt. S. C. Bate, and Capt. L. D. Hammond, and several of the horses were troop horses from the regiment.

The most famous troop horse of them all was Bucephalus. He was by a thoroughbred out of a standard mare and was purchased by the regiment for \$175. Bucephalus was ridden by Major Timmis and represented Canada for nine years in International competition. After his retirement from active jumping he was given to his rider and lived a quiet life of leisure at the latter's farm till nearly thirty. It is interesting to note that although Bucephalus won many firsts he was never on a winning Cup team. A list of his firsts includes the George III Gold Cup at New York in 1927, a tie for the same award in 1928 and the \$1000



Military Stake in Boston in 1929. To top it off the Canadian team was offered \$10,000 for Bucephalus in 1927.

In 1932 the Canadian team won the Team Competition in Toronto. In 1936 the British team won in New York, and back in Toronto with six teams competing, the United States, Britain and Canada turned in clean scores. In the run-off when many of the obstacles were raised to five feet, and the triple in-and-out was 4' 6", 4' 9", and 5' 10", Britain made a total of four faults, and the U.S. a total of seven. Canada went in and made another clean score. This same team won the Three Day event and the Team Cup in New York in 1937. In 1938 the team went to the Royal Dublin Show and then on to the International Show at Aachen, Germany.

Another form of sport, and very useful for training was the circus. The R.C.D. Circus which started in 1914 and was re-instituted in 1922, was quite famous and was a lot of fun for all concerned. There were some fifteen trained experts and a dozen horses, and they worked in a regular 40 foot ring. Performances were given at the Grandstand at the C.N.E. in 1922 when 25 shows were staged.

In 1940 the horse era came to an end when the regiment was mechanized. It was a sad blow to all horse lovers. Many of the horses were sent to the British Army and many were sold to good homes. The old ones were humanely destroyed.



Col. R. S. Timmis on Bucephalus

EXCERPTS FROM FLANDERS

The following little anecdotes are taken from a lecture given by Lt.-Col. R. S. Timmis, D.S.O., to the Canadian Military Institute in March 1920. Times and methods of warfare may change but apparently soldiers' habits still remain the same.

These incidents all occurred during the period 21 to 30 March 1918, at that time Lt.-Col. Timmis (then Major) commanded a squadron from the R.C.D. At times during this period his squadron was sometimes in action as cavalry and at others in dismounted action.

... "One evening after it got dark a rather funny incident occurred. I went out to reconnoitre down the line with one of my sergeants. We had some rockets which we were to send up, and so I suggested to

the sergeant that he should get some pieces of wood to split up and make sticks for the rockets. He went around a shed and pulled some pieces off with his rifle. I heard the wood cracking just as though it was coming off the shed but when he handed the butt of his rifle to me to hold I saw he had broken his rifle in two. The funny part of it was when he was telling some of the fellows in the billet how he had broken his rifle he said he was out with me when we met a Boche. He hit him over the head with it and smashed the rifle, and they all believed him. . . ."

... "That night I got some real sleep, after four days. Just after I got to sleep a staff officer came up and woke me, so I asked him in "polite" language what he wanted. He said he had no forage and where was the quartermaster? Two or three days later I had a letter from one brigade staff captain. I was wakened up at two o'clock in the morning—it was after we had got back to Amiens—we had been on the go for two weeks, and when I found a bed with a mattress I went right off to sleep. After about two hours there was a knock on the door, and the orderly handed me a very important note. I lit a candle and read the note and this is what it actually said, "With reference to the six bottles which you have returned, we cannot accept these without the stoppers." I was secretary of the regimental canteen and we had had some beer or something!! . . ."

... "During some of the operations I had a mule. I remember she got into a wood while carrying an ammunition pack, and the bullets started to go off near her so she calmly laid down. She laid down till they stopped and then she went on again. She was the only one of that lot that got back. She came back eventually and joined us late in the afternoon with a wounded man on her back. That mule must have had an extraordinary number of lives (or brains) because whenever she got near fire she laid down. . . ."



EXCERPTS FROM PETAWAWA

By SGT. CUMMINGS, R.C.D.

The detailed description of regimental training has been adequately covered in another part of the *Springbok*.

For the benefit of the uninitiated herewith is a glossary of the terms used in present day manoeuvres.

LEAGUER. This word has nothing to do with that delightful beverage put out by the Brewer's Warehouse. But on receiving the order "to lager" the squadron tanks form a hollow square, somewhat similar to the British infantry square which proved impregnable at Waterloo and on other notable occasions. In the centre of this square are placed the squadron's trucks and other unarmed vehicles, containing such important items as the next hot meal, Q.M. stores, issue rum, etc.

A **HARBOUR** is not an unidentified Eastern Canadian port, but the site where the Squadron Commander has decided to settle down for the night or a lengthier period of time, but incidentally may be decidedly damp. Here the tanks take up a tactical position (guns pointing outwards—not at the cookhouse) in a large circle. Within this circle are put up the vital necessities for existence such as the Officers' Mess, Sergeants' Mess and Men's Canteen. Also within this magic circle of tanks the troops themselves take up residence for the period as desired by the

H.P.H. (see later on in the glossary) Troops, as ever, make themselves as comfortable as possible living in tents, bell, circular, maybe crowded as many as five men per tent. Wash racks are set up and as the evening sun goes down the sound, dear to the heart of the Canadian lumberjack, of axes biting into young trees, is heard. As the troops cut hither and yon into the bush, no—not obtaining material for camouflage but merely to obtain fuel to keep warm and make up the evening brew of tea.

ONE UP is another order frequently heard over the "air", (a modern substitution aided by wireless for a good word of command). This does not mean you are temporarily financially embarrassed or one man one horse, but is merely an order meaning that so and so's tank will take the leading position in the attack on the enemy.

TWO UP. No, you are not buying for a friend as well but it's just the troop-leader's command for two tanks to bear the brunt of the attack on the opposing army from Eastland, Northland or whatever country we happen to be fighting that day.

MAINTENANCE has replaced the word "STABLES" in the present day soldier's vocabulary. Stables meant, if you did not feel overly ambitious and could get out of the way of the troop sergeant's eye, of hiding under the manger and feeding your "long-faced friend sugar and having a quiet forty winks. But try hiding out under a tank. The next thing you know some super-efficient expert decides to clean the air cleaners or some other part of the engine and you get a shower of old oil mixed with sand.

H.P.H. stands for High Priced Help, which refers to anyone drawing more pay and enjoying more privileges than yourself.

Now to get down to the more serious side of training. It all amounts to the old set-up of the individual, the troop, the squadron and finally the regiment. Starting off with the troop, the individuals having



Regimental
Semi
Indirect
Shoot

completed their respective training in the classroom during the winter months. Around March 20th the H.P.H. having decided that spring has arrived Troop Training begins. So out we go to the training area—four tanks per troop—doing “one up, two up” etc. for a week. For four days a return is made to barracks each night. But for one day you stay out all night. This means the S.Q.M.S. delivers a day’s rations to the troop, then piles into his truck and returns to the Sergeants’ Mess for a good hot meal. This leaves you with all sort of edible commodities sufficient to feed your crew for the next 24 hours. But none of the rations seem to be divisible by 5 (the number of your crew). How can you divide 3 rashers of bacon and 4 eggs equally unless you make a bacon omelette out of it. Which is what probably happens, although your appointed cook (most likely the driver) never intended it to turn out that way. And why does the Sergeant Cook always insist that rice is the only available dessert, as the darn stuff sticks to the mess tins nearly as badly as the burgoo you had for breakfast. But on the

whole you manage to survive the ordeal, and do better the next time, and return to barracks more appreciative of the food in the messes.

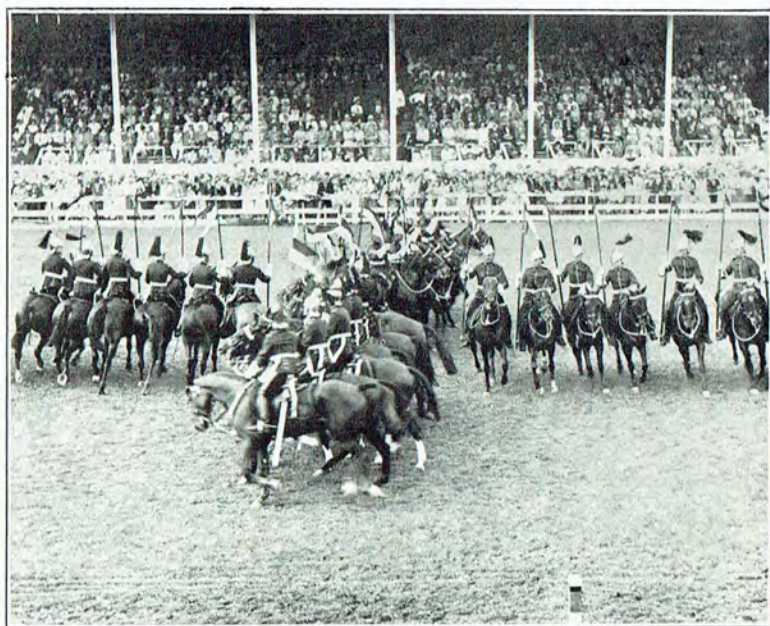
From Troop you advance to Squadron training and then life becomes really “jammy”. You spend a whole week out in the training area but you don’t have to tell your driver to drop that wrench and get cracking with cooking a nice stew a la engine oil. At meal times you are either in harbour and eat in style a meal provided very efficiently by the Squadron cooks. Or even when you “lunch out” the S.Q.M.S. plus his cohorts from the cook-house bring out a good hot meal, kept warm in insulated containers. Gone are the days when lunch on manoeuvres meant the unexpended portion of the day’s jam and cheese ration mixed with bread crumbs in the bottom of your haversack.

From Squadron training the next step is Regimental training. This is squadrons working together on a large scale, and if circumstances permit and the troops are available the P.B.I. are brought in to work with us.

A and B Squadrons preparing for shoot



Royal Canadian Dragoons
The Musical Ride
Canadian National Exhibition



Precision at the Ex!

The Regimental Circus



The Royal Canadian Dragoons Trumpet Band

THE earliest records of military affairs make mention of music. The Israelites sang of their victories, accompanying themselves on the harp; the armies of the Crusaders had minstrels and trumpeters; the forces in the First Great War were often piped into battle by the bagpipes.

Present day warfare does not allow the use of music in action, but the importance of music in training, and between battles is still emphasized. The forces of the British Empire are accustomed to hearing the finest martial music, and cavalry has always been distinguished by the excellence of its trumpeters.

Early in 1950 the Royal Canadian Dragoons were authorized to form a trumpet band, personnel to be found from within the establishment of the regiment. The Commanding Officer, realizing the excellent morale building effect such a band would have, immediately took steps to have such an organization brought into being. Capt. P. W. Ayriss was appointed

Band Officer, bringing to the task enthusiasm, a sound knowledge of music, but not the faintest idea of the composition or training of a trumpet band. Fortunately there were personnel in the unit who had the required knowledge.

Cpl. G. W. Woollard was made Drum-Major, and is still holding this position. Cpl. Woollard has had a wide and varied experience in this sphere, having played in No. 2 District Depot Trumpet Band, Port Arthur Sea Cadet Bugle Band, the Winnipeg Sea Cadet Brass Band, and helped form the first CWAC Trumpet Band. It is very largely due to his knowledge and enthusiasm that the Royal Canadian Dragoon Trumpet Band has made such remarkable progress.

Two other accomplished musicians were instrumental in training the band. L/Cpl. A. MacLean, a Gold Medallist in trumpeting from The Windsor Regiment Trumpet Band, was appointed Lead Trumpeter, and has brought the trumpeters to a very creditable standard of efficiency. Cpl. H. A.





RCD TRUMPET BAND

Back Row, left to right: Capt. P. W. Ayriss, Tpr. Newman, Tpr. Willett, Tpr. Lacroix, Tpr. Pierce, Tpr. Arsenault, Tpr. Meehan, Tpr. Gass, L/Cpl. Coleman, L/Cpl. McLean, Tpr. Anderson, Tpr. Druillard, Tpr. McMillan, Tpr. Mingy, L/Cpl. Vandenvossek, Cpl. Woollard.

Front Row, left to right: L/Cpl. Oram, Tpr. Blanchard, Tpr. Thornton, Tpr. Lloyd, L/Cpl. Gould, Tpr. Johnson, DL, Cpl. Clarke.

Clarke, a former drummer from the Canadian Scottish Regiment Pipe Band, has trained the drum section which is now one of the best in the Canadian Army.

A great deal of the practice put in by the members of the band has been in their own time, but a certain number of periods have been assigned for practice during working hours. The Commanding Officer has made every effort to maintain the enthusiasm of the band members.

The Trumpet Band have been kept very busy during the past summer. Each Saturday morning the band played for the graduation parade of the GMT Wing of Petawawa Summer Camp. The salute at each of these parades was taken by Major-General C. Vokes, CB, CBE, DSO, GOC Central Command. At these parades the band received praise for their excellent work. The band also played for a Garrison Church parade held to mark the opening

of Army Week. On the latter occasion, the salute was taken by Col. D. K. Todd, DSO, Commander Petawawa Military Camp.

On 28 Aug. 50, the Trumpet Band, assisted by a guard drawn from the Regimental Junior NCO's Course, staged a ceremonial retreat in Petawawa Military Camp. The retreat was attended by a large number of spectators including Major-General Vokes. Following the actual retreat the band performed a variety of band manoeuvres (counter marches, wheels, etc.) and played five selections. All present remarked on the excellent playing, and precise drills of the Trumpet Band.

One fact of interest is that a good deal of originality is displayed by band members, Trp Eric Newman, assisted by other trumpeters, has composed a march "The SS Eric Newman", which is now an established piece in the band repertoire. The

band has composed a fanfare, "Salute to Valour" which is to be used in Ottawa on Nov. 7th when His Excellency Viscount Alexander unveils a plaque at the site of the Boer War gun on Confederation Square. Members of the Band have also made an arrangement of the "Cuckoo Waltz" which is a very acceptable slow march.

The present composition of the band is eight straight trumpets, five trumpets with crooks, six side drums, two tenor drums, and one bass drum. A pair of cymbals will be added in the very near future. At the moment consideration is being given to changing the band instruments to piston trumpets, one valve. This would involve an expenditure of approximately \$1,000, but would allow the band to play in two keys, in three part harmony. The bass

drummer has recently been made happy by the purchase of a leopard skin apron which has just been received from England.

The Royal Canadian Dragoon Trumpet Band has twice been visited by Major A. L. Streeter, Inspector of Bands. Major Streeter has taken a keen interest in the group and has given very sound advice and instruction.

The Trumpet Band of the Royal Canadian Dragoons has been in existence only seven months. In that time it has grown from a paper establishment to a keen, efficient group. It is a group of which the regiment is justly proud. The Band will go on to greater heights of efficiency. It has set its sights high—the aim is to become the leading trumpet band of the Canadian Army. It has every expectation of achieving that ambition.

Married Quarters Nearing Completion

The majority of married personnel serving here at Petawawa are very fortunate as far as the housing problem is concerned.

With the completion this past summer of a whole new block of permanent married quarters, the large majority of married personnel have been allotted a house.

Built at the south end of the Military Camp they are very scenically situated on the bank of the Ottawa river. The new homes range from one storey, California cottage style to three and four bedroomed houses. Each housing unit is equipped with refrigerator, electric stove, hot water heating unit and oil furnace.

The houses were allocated on a point system which considered service, number of family, length of separation, rank, etc.

The housing area is commonly referred to as the "married patch" but it is to be hoped that an appropriate name will be given shortly.

It is a town in itself and in many respects is considerably farther advanced than towns of comparable size. An 18 room school is being built to accommodate the children and will provide for both elementary and high school education.

The contractors are busy finishing off the last block of houses, landscaping the area and laying hard surfaced roads. Although lawns and gardens have had to take a low priority up until now the residents of our all-Army community believe that by next summer they will have a model townsite that will be a real show place.

The United States Cavalry

By CAPTAIN R. MAURICE HILL, M.B.E., T.D.

It was with great interest that I read in this morning's *Western Mail* an announcement that William Courtenay, *Western Mail* special correspondent on the Korean northern front, had cabled yesterday:—"Men of the Argylls and the Middlesex will go into the line alongside the United States First Cavalry Division. The Cavalry Division used to work alongside Empire troops in the Pacific War and with the British in Japan. The Americans welcome the idea of having British regiments, while our Forces will find fighting alongside the crack 1st Cavalry Division equally agreeable".

Then I thought that perhaps readers of *The Springbok* might be interested to know a little more about the historical background of the United States Cavalry, with whom their Regiment is soon to be so closely associated in this promising partnership, in a joint fight to preserve freedom and justice.

Before considering the history of the U.S. Cavalry, however, a few words on general lines may be of interest. Before the outbreak of Hitler's War the United States had two Regular Cavalry Divisions, based on Fort Bliss, Texas, and Fort Riley, Kansas, respectively. The United States Army does not have a separate badge for each regiment, as we do, but has a General Service cap badge (the American Eagle), while the collar-badge shows the insignia of the arm of the service to which the wearer belongs. This, in the case of the Cavalry, is the appropriate device of crossed swords (incidentally, the U.S. Infantry wear crossed rifles). The regiments are known by numbers, e.g., 1st Cavalry, and so on: those of the Regular Army, forming part of the 1st Cavalry Division alongside whom The Middlesex Regiment and The Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders will be fighting in Korea, are recruited from all over the United States, men from every

State in the Union serving side by side in the same regiment. But the higher numbers on the roll of the U.S. Cavalry are borne by the regiments of the National Guard, which is an organization of citizen soldiers comparable with the British Territorial Army. Thus, the 106th Cavalry are the Illinois National Guard, and the 113th Cavalry are the Iowa National Guard.

The facings on the full dress uniforms of the United States Army in peace time did not differ from regiment to regiment, as they do in our army, but served to differentiate the arms of the service from each other. The facing colour of the U.S. Cavalry was yellow. Perhaps some readers may have seen a recent film about the American army of seventy-five years ago, which took its title "She Wore a Yellow Ribbon" from an old song handed down from bygone generations of U.S. cavalrymen—"Round her neck she wore a yellow ribbon . . . she wore it for her lover in the U.S. Cavalry." It is an interesting coincidence that the two British infantry regiments which are to fight alongside the U.S. Cavalry in Korea both wear yellow facings, or perhaps I should say did wear yellow facings in the days before battle dress became the usual wear.

Each United States Cavalry Regiment, whether mounted or mechanized, has for years past carried a standard, 3 ft. by 4 ft. in size, showing the "Stars and Stripes". This is always treated with the same honours as are the standards, guidons, and colours of our own army.

The United States Cavalry, like the rest of the United States Army, dates its origin from the War of Independence. At the outset of that war the soldiers under General Washington's command were all volunteers or militiamen enrolled for a few months' service only. Realizing that for a long war he needed men who would serve to its very end, not men whose service he

might lose just on the very eve of a decisive battle because their short term enlistment had expired, he got permission from Congress to raise a body of men who would be the soldiers of the nation as a whole, not of one particular State, and who would serve to the conclusion of the war, instead of for a few months only. These men, famous in American history as "The Old Continentals", were the founders of the Regular Army of the United States.

The words of an appeal which Washington caused to be read at the head of each militia and volunteer corps, to induce their members to enlist in the new Regular Army, are well worth recalling today, when they seem just as appropriate as they did when first spoken nearly two and a half centuries ago:—"These are the times that try men's souls. The summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will in this crisis shrink from the service of his country, but he that stands now deserves the love and thanks of man and woman."

The Revolutionary War was not the type of campaign to give very great opportunities to cavalry, except as scouts and despatch riders, though at least one American cavalryman of that era is still remembered by his fellow-countrymen as "Light Horse Harry" Lee. He was the father of the famous Civil War General Robert E. Lee, respected by Britons, Canadians and Americans alike as standing for everything implied by the phrase "an officer and a gentleman".

Although his original commission was in the Corps of Engineers, General Robert E. Lee spent part of his service as second-in-command of a regiment of U.S. Cavalry.

In the years which followed the foundation of the United States, the tiny force of cavalry was mainly employed on the frontiers of civilization chastizing the Indian tribes for their bloodthirsty raids on the white settlers. At the battle of Fallen Timbers, 20th August, 1794, General Wayne ("Mad Anthony Wayne", whose ghost, riding a galloping charger whose hoofs made no sound on the road has twice

been reported as having been seen in this prosaic twentieth century of ours) made effective use of his little cavalry force. When the redskins were driven out of their hiding places in among the trees, he let loose his cavalry on them. The troopers with their long swords cut down the redskin warriors or ran them through the back as they fled. It was a very bad day for the Indians when they were caught in the open by the cavalry, and from that day onwards they developed a wholesome respect for the swordsmen whom they described as "The Long Knives".

The part played by the U.S. Cavalry in spreading civilization across the American continent has never been fully appreciated. Much praise and honour has been given—and rightly given—to the pioneer settlers: but few have spared a kind thought, and still fewer a few words of thanks or praise as a tribute to the hardy, underpaid soldiers who did so much towards the winning of the West, that great area which today makes such a tremendous contribution to the wealth and prosperity of the American nation. When we think of all the busy cities in the west today, we should not forget the unknown troopers in nameless graves who formed the advance guard of civilization in these lands.

The present 3rd U.S. Cavalry, with whom The Middlesex Regiment may come in contact in Korea, owe their origin to a ten company unit of mounted riflemen raised in 1846 to provide posts for the protection and guidance of travellers along the road to the Oregon territory, which was then being opened up for settlement. This regiment made a long march of 2500 miles (about the same as the distance between Liverpool and Halifax, Nova Scotia) from Leavenworth to Oregon, of which it is recorded by Major W. A. Gance in his "History of the United States Army" that "But for Fort Laramie and Fort Kearney there was not a house between Fort Leavenworth and the Columbia River. The column plodded through trackless wastes, oftentimes without wood, water, or grass."

(Continued on page 74)

Regimental Dance

The past year brought a new addition to our regimental social activities in the form of our Regimental dance. It is hoped that this dance will remain as an annual function of the Regiment. It is at functions such as these that the spirit of good association is furthered and where the whole



Presentation to Mrs. Wattsford by Cpl. Fitzpatrick

"Regimental family" gathers for one of its yearly get togethers. It had been doubted in many sources that a large function such as a Regimental dance would be successful. However the Regiment in its usual style overcame many obstacles and presented an extremely fine evening of entertainment. An unforeseen eventuality which had to be dealt with was the dispatching of 50 gunner-operators to assist in the Winnipeg flood disaster on the day of the dance. In order to prevent a lot of disappointments, the wives and girls of the lads were taken by other families and party groups to the dance.

The dance was held in the Pembroke Armoury, which after a period of renovation was finally completed. The armoury

was very tastefully decorated with streamers and potted ferns. The colour scheme was of Regimental design, scarlet, blue and gold. Regimental emblems, artistically done with cardboard cuts and crepe paper design were mounted with lances and cavalry swords, giving a real military ball atmosphere.

A head table was prepared for the honoured guests, consisting of a paper design with a large "SPRINGBOK" centre piece of flowers. Guests at the head table were Lt. Col. and Mrs. Wattsford, Lt. Col. and Mrs. Bingham, Lt. Col. and Mrs. MacGregor, Major and Mrs. Speedie, Major and Mrs. Wallace, Major and Mrs. Forgie, Major and Mrs. Pratt, the R.S.M. and Mrs. Smith.

Those attending were received by Lt. Col. and Mrs. Wattsford, Major and Mrs. Speedie, and the R.S.M. and Mrs. Smith. Mrs. Wattsford was presented with a large bouquet of roses by Tpr. Fitzpatrick on behalf of the Regiment.

A buffet supper was served during the evening and the Regimental cooks under the direction of Sgt. Ranger, did an excellent job in preparing a delicious meal. The cooking staff are to be especially commended for their efforts as not only did they have the extensive preparations for the buffet supper but all were on duty at 4 a.m., the day of the dance in order to prepare breakfast for the troops leaving for Winnipeg.

It was evident that the Regimental dance was an overwhelming success and is a welcome addition to our social activities. The committee of Major Speedie, Capt. Watson, Capt. Buckingham, Capt. Ayriss, Lieut. Wheeler and Lieut. Robertson did a fine job which was very much appreciated by all those attending.

Leliefontein—7 November 1900

In November 1900 the South African War had reached that stage which is familiar to all who have ever participated in a successful campaign. The great armies of the enemy had been smashed. The head of the State, in this case President Paul Kruger, had fled his country. The home government felt that the war was so close to a successful conclusion that they were preparing to recall the Commander-in-Chief and turn over the winding-up duties to a Deputy Commander. As it happened, Field Marshal Lord Roberts departed from South Africa for England before the month was out.

Even the people reflected this "it's all over but the shouting" attitude. On the streets of London "The War" was being spoken of in the past tense. But an oversight had occurred. Somebody had neglected to inform the soldiers of the enemy that they were hopelessly beaten, and their cause lost. Consequently they carried out a programme of raiding and harassment with admirable vigor, and many a bloody action was yet to be fought.

One of the most tempting targets for the type of harassing at which the Boers were most adept was the railway line connecting Pretoria with the Portuguese port of Lorenzo Marques. The importance of keeping this line open was paramount, as it reduced the cross-country supply lines to a fraction of the Cape Town route and a large Commando was poised south of Belfast for a strike against it.

To counter this threat the British stationed a Flying Column at Belfast under Major-General Smith-Dorrien. It was this force to which the Royal Canadian Dragoons were attached on 1st November 1900. That very night Smith-Dorrien set out with his force to attack the enemy in their laager at a place called Witkloof. However it was raining when the force in two columns started out and as the night wore on the rain changed to a freezing

sleet, while the wind rose to gale proportions.

After twelve hours of marching blindly through blizzard and numbed with cold, the two columns of staggering men and stumbling horses converged at Vanwyksvlei. An enemy detachment located there, unprepared for this sudden appearance of a large composite body of attackers, and fortunately unaware of their sorry state, took flight and galloped off.

It was now broad daylight and the sky promised a continuing drizzle of rain. In consequence General Smith-Dorrien decided against continuing the advance to Witkloof, as he felt, and quite reasonably so, that any attack launched with his exhausted men and horses would end in disaster. So the troops began their weary trek back to Belfast.

In the meantime, the routed detachment of Boers had gone to ground in the surrounding hills, and were carefully observing the actions of the British. No sooner had it become apparent that a retirement was under way, than they mounted and galloped boldly towards the rear guard of one of the columns which comprised a squadron of Fifth Lancers, two field guns, and two companies of Gordon Highlanders. The Gordons were being hotly pressed when the timely intervention by a group of Royal Canadian Dragoons relieved what might have developed into a sticky situation. There was no further incident on the return to Belfast.

On November 6th, General Smith-Dorrien embarked on a second attempt to destroy the Boer Forces in the Witkloof area. Contact was made at Eerstelingfontein and the enemy was driven back to the Komati River. There the enemy established himself in a strong line from Witkloof to Leliefontein, and successfully held the British force at bay for some hours.

It required prolonged and aggressive probing to discover a weak spot in this

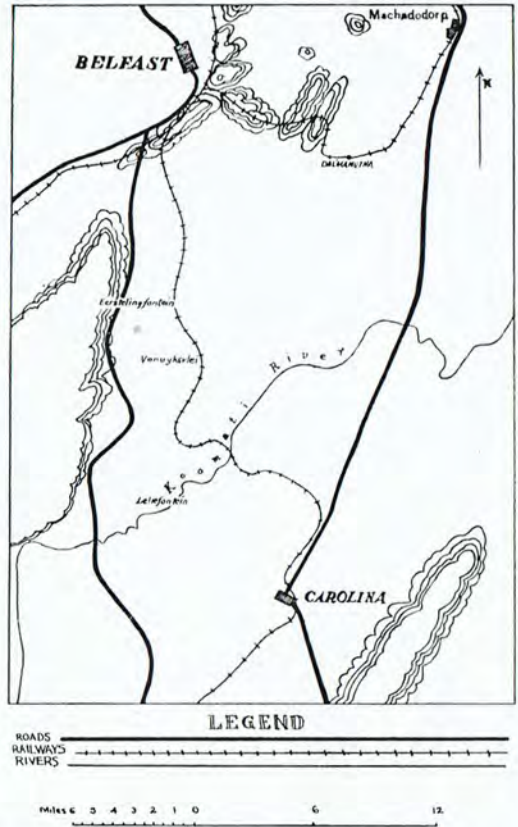
bastion of the enemy, but before dark two companies of the Suffolks, which had been detached with the Royal Canadian Dragoons for the purpose, had obtained a lodgement on the Boer's left flank. The result was instantaneous; the enemy hurriedly evacuated their stronghold and scrambled across the river towards Carolina. The force then advanced along the high ground to Leliefontein and bivouacked for the night.

The next morning, instead of assaulting over the Komati and driving on to Carolina, which was the obvious course, Smith-Dorrien directed his force northeast along his own side of the river. When the Boers observed this, they raced down the open slopes from Carolina to the Komati. When several hundreds of them were exposed, the General brought his guns to bear and havoc was wrought among the enemy over open sights.

The Boers quickly realized the hopelessness of their position and extricated themselves as best they could. When they had reorganized, a strong commando was despatched to the northeast down the right bank of the river. This group, if it could cross the river beyond Smith-Dorrien's flank, was strong enough to effectively cut off the force from its base at Belfast.

The General's reaction when he perceived this threat was immediate. He ordered the main column of infantry, baggage and heavy guns to withdraw, and detailed the Royal Canadian Dragoons supported by two Canadian field guns, as rear guard.

As soon as the Boers realized a withdrawal was under way, they crashed across the river and fiercely engaged the rearguard. By 1030 hrs. that eventful morning the main convoy had withdrawn sufficiently for the rear guard to fall back. As they began the movement, the Boers seized this awaited opportunity and some 200 of them charged towards the guns. Without a moment's hesitation Lieut. H. Z. C. Cockburn dismounted his Dragoons, the remnants of two troops, and doggedly engaged the galloping horde with rifle fire.



The attackers rolled onward, apparently heedless of Cockburn's blazing fire, and actually got within seventy yards of the precious guns. However, the Boer's fire was wildly inaccurate, being directed from the saddle, so the guns were limbered up and evacuated in the nick of time. Cockburn was captured, as were all of his men who were not killed or wounded.

For the next two hours a running fight was kept up between the fast dwindling rearguard and the vastly superior pursuing force. At 1330 hrs. another desperate attempt was made on the guns. This time Lieut. R. E. W. Turner, although wounded in the neck and arm managed to gather together enough men to deny the guns once again to the galloping, screaming mob of sharpshooting horsemen.

During the height of this attack, the Colt-Gatling machine gun, in charge of

Sergeant E. J. Holland, was almost surrounded. As the horse which drew the gun had collapsed, it appeared inevitable that the Boers would soon be in possession of this deadly weapon. Appreciating the Colt's value in the hands of the enemy, Sgt. Holland with rare presence of mind coolly detached the gun from the carriage and rode off with it in his arms under the very noses of the Boers.

Lieut. E. W. Morrison, who commanded the two field guns, later reported that he was amused to see the Boers attempt to turn the empty carriage on his guns, thinking the weapon still intact. When they realized the uselessness of their prize, they gave vent to their frustration by pausing in the battle and setting fire to the carriage.

The resolution and coolness demonstrated by Lieut. Turner and his men in bringing this last charge to a halt short of its objective completely discouraged the enemy. The bearded wild-eyed men on horseback decided that they had had enough, and although they trailed the column for a few miles, they kept a good 2000 yards away, and by 1600 hrs. had given up the pursuit.

The day's action by the Royal Canadian Dragoons caught the eye of the Empire. General Smith-Dorrien recommended four of the Dragoons, Lieut. H. Z. C. Cockburn, Lieut. R. E. W. Turner, Sergt. E. J. Holland and Pte. W. A. Knisley, for the Victoria Cross. Some months later the *London Gazette* announced that Lieutenants Cockburn and Turner, and Sergeant Holland had been awarded that most coveted of decorations.

This year the Regiment celebrated the Golden Anniversary of this historic and proud occasion with the unveiling of a memorial plaque at the site of one of the guns which took part in the action and which is now on Confederation Square in Ottawa. The ceremony took place on 7 Nov., the anniversary of Leliefontein, and His Excellency the Governor General officiated. Also present was Lieut.-General Sir Richard Turner, VC, KCB, KCMG, DSO, who now lives in Quebec City and who still maintains an active interest in the Regiment to which he helped bring the distinction of winning three Victoria Crosses in one day.

Cavalry Crossing A Ford

A line in a long array when they wind betwixt green islands,
 They take a serpentine course, their arms flash in the sun, hark to the musical clank,
 Behold the silvery river, in it the splashing horses loitering, stop to drink,
 Behold the brown-faced men, each group, each person a picture, the negligent rest on
 the saddles,
 Some emerge on the opposite bank, others are just entering the ford—while,
 Scarlet and blue and shining gold
 The guidon flutters gayly in the wind.

—WALT WHITMAN

News Letter

from The 1st The Royal Dragoons

On the day following the surrender of the German armies in the North to Field Marshal Montgomery's armies the Regiment, which was then near Lubeck, received orders to advance into Denmark, enter Copenhagen as quickly as possible, locate and neutralize all German installations and dumps and get the Germans out. We entered Denmark on 7 May 1945, received a tremendous welcome, carried out our job with the help of the Danish resistance movement, and had a wonderful six months in Denmark.

The Regiment returned to Germany in November 1945 and, at the time of writing is still there although we are due to leave soon. The traces of the Danish episode remain however. Officers and other ranks have departed at intervals for leave in Denmark, there are Royals with Danish wives and some ex-Royals now have jobs in Denmark.

We are lucky to have been organized as an armoured car regiment ever since losing our horses in Palestine in 1940 (?). Other cavalry regiments have been re-organized as tank regiments and divisional regiments R.A.C. but, apart from having had different types of vehicles and slight fluctuations in establishment we have not had to change from our armoured car rôle.

After leaving Denmark our first station in Germany was Eutin. Here we stayed from November 1945 to May 1946, living in ex-Wehrmacht barracks. Eutin is 25 miles southeast of Kiel.

In May 1946 we moved to Gifhorn and Bodenteich about 30 miles north of Brunswick. At this time the Regiment was made up of X and Y Sqns. only as the release of war-time soldiers had decreased our strength considerably.

After only five months at Gifhorn and Bodenteich we moved to the airfield at

Dedelsdorf, only a few miles north of Gifhorn, and here the first families arrived. Although "in the wilderness" all ranks appeared to enjoy their stay at Dedelsdorf where recreation and sport were to be found mainly in the fresh air. There was good shooting, riding and some reasonable fishing to be found and although one assumes that the majority in a regiment always like to be much nearer to a town we heard many voices saying "wish we were still at Dedelsdorf" when we reached Wolfenbüttel in October 1947.

At the time of writing we have just completed three years at Wolfenbüttel. A record stay. In about three weeks from now we leave Germany for home where we anticipate a stay of only two months before we move off again, to the Middle East this time.

Wolfenbüttel, our home for three years, is a town about 5 miles south of Brunswick. We have excellent barracks, are in easy reach of several places of interest including the Harz Mountains where there is usually enough winter snow to warrant the use of ski and with a good annual leave to the UK for the single members we have been very happy here. Nearly all the "marrieds" have had their families out, most of them for over two years, and quarters have been good.

Wolfenbüttel is mentioned in the present Regimental History. Apparently the Regiment was billeted here for some time in 1761 whilst taking part in the seven year's war campaigns.

Brunswick, of course, was a centre of Nazi-ism and a college (now a British children's school) was built there as a centre of Nazi learning for the "Hitler youth".

In Wolfenbüttel our duties have been various. We have been a training Regiment,

(Continued on page 67)

The Fate of The Regiment

By ARTHUR BRYANT

The safety and honour of Britain depend not on her wealth and administration but on the character of her people. This in turn depends on the institutions which form character. In war it depends, in particular, on the military institutions which create the martial habits of discipline, courage, loyalty, pride and endurance.

In the British Army from time immemorial the most important of these has been the Regiment. The Regiment is not merely an administrative organization to be judged by its logistical convenience. Method and industry in the office and administrative tidiness—admirable qualities—avail nothing on the battlefield unless implemented by the courage and selflessness of the fighting man. War is a hateful thing. Yet, by a paradox not always realized, the soldier's is the noblest of callings. For no other man has to make such constant demands on his own nature. In him instinctive and spasmodic courage and selflessness have to be fostered and disciplined into second nature.

The Regiment exists to ensure this. It is something more than a vehicle for orders: it is a school for military virtue. Its value to our country is that it evokes men's love, pride and loyalty and, by doing so, enables them on the battlefield to transcend their own natures. This sacred and undying brotherhood, drawn from all classes and standards of education but knit together in a common pride and code, has repeatedly given the British Army a fighting strength in excess of its numbers and equipment. How many times, thanks to our national habit of neglecting our Army in peacetime, has it needed it!

A PRICE TO BE PAID

For throughout our history there has been a price to pay for the immunity from invasion and the wealth and influence that have sprung from our command of the sea. That price is paid in part by the

soldier. Britain, with her comparatively small population, cannot simultaneously afford a large Army as well as a great Navy or its modern equivalent, a great Navy and a great Air Force. As soon as the memory of war recedes, the British have always demanded that the Army should be reduced in personnel and equipment to a strength far lower than those of their potential enemies. Thus, the British soldier has had to face utterly disproportionate odds in defence of military interests vital to our survival and future victory. So in the terrible winter of 1914 the little Regular Army had to defend the Channel ports, on which our sea strategy depended, almost ceasing to exist in the task while England buckled on her armour. So, too, in 1940 O'Connor's handful of Regulars in the Western Desert had to face—and defeat—forces six or seven times their own strength in order to secure the Nile Valley and the global strategy on which all our own and our Allies' future war efforts depended.

What is true of the British soldier in general is still more so of the infantryman. To none is that imponderable, morale, so important. The sailor has his ship, the airman his aircraft, the artillerymen his gun, the cavalryman his tank or horse to inspire affection and loyalty. But the infantryman depends in the last resort upon one thing: his tempered and unconquerable spirit.

It is no accident that the symbol round which in the past the British infantryman fought, and which again and again he died to defend, was the Regimental Colours. For these were for him the ark of his own peculiar covenant: the exclusive brotherhood in which he had voluntarily enlisted and which he would sooner die than betray. To let down the Regiment, to be unworthy of the men of old who had marched under the same Colours, to be untrue to the com-

rades who had shared the same loyalties, hardships and perils was more than even the least-tutored, humblest soldier would do. And it was always a peculiar and special pride, so dear to the hearts of the free men of our race. "Neither King's nor Queen's nor Royal," shouted the proud Colonel of the Gloucesters, "only old Bragg's Brass before and Brass behind; Twenty-eighth Foot—shoulder arms!"

REGIMENTAL PRIDE

Again and again this pride in the continuing Regiment has enabled the infantryman to stand firm and fight forward when the bravest without it would have failed. It is a pride which turns disaster and in-

justice—the lot of the British soldier at the outset of all wars—into a challenge to endure and suffer. "Ah!" said the Iron Duke when a battalion had to be sacrificed to plug an awkward gap in his line, "The Twenty-third—that is the very thing!" There cannot have been a fusilier who did not glow with a grim pride when he learnt of the Duke's ominous words. Or as an officer of the same Regiment wrote during another test of endurance a century later:

Lucasta! he's a fusilier!

His pride keeps him there.

It has been the realization of this that has caused those in high command to resist logistical arguments that a common Corps



The above picture showing the Guidon and Regimental Trumpets, symbolize those things which Arthur Bryant, in his article "The Fate of the Regiment", has tried to explain. Pictured with the Guidon is S.S.M. H. W. Price, while the trumpets are held by Cpl. G. W. Woollard and Cpl. R. M. Barrett. All are serving members of the Regiment.

of Infantry would be easier to administer than sixty-nine separate Regiments. During the 1914-18 war, and again during the late war, it frequently proved impossible, when heavy casualties had been suffered by a particular battalion, to reinforce it with men from the same Regiment. For this reason men who had been trained to regard loyalty to, say, the Northumberland Fusiliers as the ultimate virtue might find themselves, to their disgust, in the hour for which all their training had been a preparation, fighting in the ranks of a Regiment, equally glorious to its own men, but of whose traditions they knew nothing. The very purpose of Regimental *esprit de corps* was thus defeated.

It was to meet the criticisms of the administrator while preserving the priceless attributes of the Regiment that Major-General Wimberley, during his spell as Director of Infantry at the end of the war, devised the new grouping of the infantry into fifteen groups of Regiments, each, except those of the Guards, the Light Infantry, and the Rifles, based on an area whose inhabitants possessed a common regional pride. Thus the Devons and Dorsets—the “Bloody Eleventh” and the “Green Linnets”—the Gloucesters and the Wiltshires, the Royal Hampshires and the Royal Berkshires have been grouped together in a group or brigade based on Wessex manpower and patriotism. In principle, officers and other ranks in such a group may be posted to any of its Regiments in peace or war as need may dictate, but in practice every effort will be made to avoid taking men from their own Regiments.

There has been a further reorganization. Most of the Regiments of the British Line since the Cardwell reforms of 1881 have consisted each of two former Regiments, with their separate traditions, funds and charities. One constituted the first battalion of the Regiment, the other the second. The general rule was that, while one served abroad, the other served at home. The relinquishment of Imperial responsibilities and the reduction in the Army's

fighting “teeth” in proportion to its technical and administrative “tail” have necessitated a peacetime establishment of only one battalion for every Regiment.

SURPLUS BATTALIONS

The problem of the surplus battalion has presented Colonels of Regiments with grave difficulties as to Regimental funds and treasures, as well as with intangible sacrifices which mean more to a soldier than any civilian can comprehend. But the necessity for these evolutionary changes has been made clear and the all-important historic principle has been maintained.

The old soldier and the antiquarian must bid farewell to much that they hold dear, but what matters is that the recruit of the future should be strengthened by the same regimental loyalties and *esprit de corps* as his fathers. As Field Marshal Montgomery wrote during the war: “We must be very careful what we do with the British Infantry. They are the people that do the hard solid fighting. . . . Their fighting spirit is based largely on morale and Regimental *esprit de corps*. On no account must anyone be allowed to tamper with this.” Reprinted from *The Sunday Times*, April 4, 1948

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Silver Dart Conservation Club

By CAPT. R. J. PERRAULT, R.C.A.P.C.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Capt. R. J. Perrault has had unbroken service as Regimental Paymaster of the Royal Canadian Dragoons since 12 Aug. 46, and is the oldest serving member of the Officers' Mess.

Many of you know all about the Silver Dart Conservation Club and are members, but to those of you who are far away, and receive the *Springbok*, it will be something new to read. You will be happy to know too, that many military personnel are equally as interested and active in Conservation, as are most civilians, and when organized into a team can do their bit to add to the natural resources of the area in which they are stationed. This I might add, increases their value and usefulness as citizen soldiers of Canada.

This club was founded on 27 May 1949 by Major S. V. Radley-Walters, D.S.O., M.C., then 2 i/c of the R.C.D., who became its first president, and myself as secretary-treasurer. Both Major Rad and I had previous experience of this nature which we had gained in forming the Camp Borden-Meaford Fish & Game Club early in 1947. Not only did we meet with more spirited support here in Petawawa Military Camp, but that previous experience gained in Camp Borden, served us well indeed. We were not chartered until the end of October 1949, so the club fiscal year runs from 1 October to the 30th September next following. So officially, we are just a little over a year old.

During that time we have had a few changes in the executive; I won't mention them all here except for the office of President, Vice-President, and Chairman of the Committee. Major Rad resigned in December 1949, as he was moving to Kingston to attend the Staff College, and his place was taken by Major A. H. R. Lewis who was then commanding 23 Composite Brigade Group Workshop, R.C.E.M.E. Major Lewis was posted to Vancouver in May this year, and Major F. S. Corbeau,



"Ray the Pay"

D.S.O., R.C.D., was elected president. Cpl. D. B. Keith, R.C.D., held the office of vice-president for a year, then resigned and was replaced by R.S.M. W.O. I. J. M. Fernets of 23 C.B.G. Wkp. R.C.E.M.E. Mr. Fernets is now in the Special Force in Barriefield, and Capt. A.W. Mathewman, Quartermaster for the R.C.D., is now vice-president. Capt. G. R. Seymour, Ordnance Spare Parts Officer with 23 C.B.G. Wkp. R.C.E.M.E., is chairman of the committee and is serving his second term. The other four members of the committee are from the Royal Canadian Regiment, 35 Ordnance Ammunition Depot (R.C.O.C.), R.C.E.M.E., and the R.C.D.

Enough has been said about the organization itself, so we must move on to some of our more important activities and accomplishments during the past club fiscal year. First among these was the establishment of a clubhouse. This effort was completed a year ago this month, when the members finished the task of renovating a log build-

ing off Montgomery Road, close enough to the campsite to have electricity and piped-in water. The building is oil stove heated, and a wood burning box stove was also installed to provide extra heat during the more severe weather. The clubhouse has proven to be an excellent meeting place for sportsmen, complete with cooking facilities and light refreshments, radio and plenty of reading material. One general meeting is held each month, and a good turn-out of members is always evidenced. It is here, that the plans for all future club activities and programs are made.

After starting out with about 30 to 40 members in the summer of '49, we did have, by the end of the first fiscal year (30th Sept. '50) approximately 175 members. That is a fine accomplishment and evidence enough to prove the spirit and interest shown this worthy organization by the people of Petawawa Military Camp. Dues are \$2.00 joining fee and \$1.00 per year fees. This article is being written on Thanksgiving Day, 9 Oct. '50, and appropriately enough, for I am pleased to report that already well over a hundred members have paid their fees for the 1950-51 club fiscal year, fees which are payable on 1 Oct. and with two months of grace. Most of the other members will be along in the very near future to continue their memberships. We have lost quite a few members through postings, but have gained almost as many new members, so that we are able to carry on with a good average of active members at all times. You've probably assumed long before now, that this club is open to all ranks in camp, and you are quite right; it is also open to permanent Civil Service personnel employed in camp. The membership roll is not restricted as to numbers. Members of the club are identified while out hunting or fishing, by a club badge, the colour of which is changed every year. We have also a very attractive crest in maroon, silver and forest green.

Last January, we felt the time had arrived to discuss a fish re-stocking programme for 1950, and to make plans and prepara-

tions for same. It was necessary to make a survey of certain lakes in the area, as well as streams, and to make detailed reports and sketches of them to the Department of Lands and Forests (Ontario), Wildlife Branch. It is well to note here, that these people have always cooperated with us to the fullest extent through their Algonquin District Overseer of Wildlife, Mr. E. L. Skuce. Mr. Pierce and Mr. Hamilton, two of his District Conservation Officers, have given us excellent assistance by patrolling the camp area, at our request, and enforcing the Fish & Game Laws here. During February, Capt. O. B. Sheldrick, 35 Ordnance Ammunition Depot, our fish restocking committee chairman, was away from camp much of the time on ammunition inspections throughout the Command, therefore with the assistance of several members, I undertook the task of sounding the lakes we planned to restock, and to make the necessary reports and sketches. The ice on the lakes was 18 to 20 inches in thickness, but it offered no handicap to our members with their ice chisels. Subsequently the applications for Speckled Trout and Large Mouth Black Bass were forwarded to the Department and approved, and during the summer months restocking was carried out under the supervision of Mr. Hamilton. In all, 4700 Speckled Trout were placed in three lakes and in two streams. In two other large lakes, 1200 Large Mouth Black Bass were introduced to them for the first time. During late August and September a formidable dam was built on Tucker Creek, complete with sluice, to raise the level of water in this creek for some four miles back, and to control the level all year round. This dam is now in operation, and the result will be noticeable to fishermen who fish this stream for trout next spring.

There appears to be a very plentiful supply of deer this year, many, many more have been seen about the bush than at this time last year. The Ruffed Grouse appear to be scarce, but they should be more plentiful than last fall because they are in

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Atomic Bombing and Biological Warfare

By MAJOR R. B. FORRESTAL, T.C., R.A., (T.A.)
in The Journal of the Royal Artillery (Great Britain)

The two atomic bombs dropped by the United States Air Force towards the end of the last World War on Hiroshima and Nagasaki killed approximately 70,000 and 35,000 of the population of the two cities, respectively.

Large areas of these cities were levelled to the ground and the possibility of similar attacks on Tokyo and other cities was largely instrumental in hastening the unconditional surrender of the Japanese Emperor and Government.

To appreciate the true significance of the damage and casualties caused in these two raids, it is necessary to compare these figures with the total civilian casualties throughout the war in Britain, Germany and Japan, together with the tonnage of bombs dropped on the three countries.

In Britain approximately 70,000 tons of bombs were dropped, causing 60,000 casualties, killed.

In Germany 1,200,000 tons were dropped, killing at least 350,000 of the population, whilst in Japan 150,000 tons caused from 250,000 to 300,000 deaths.

It will be seen that, in proportion to the tonnage of bombs dropped, Japan suffered much the greater civilian casualties, but it is significant that over one-third of these casualties were caused by the two atomic bombs dropped by two single aircraft.

At this stage, it must be clearly appreciated that the atomic bomb casualties suffered at Hiroshima and Nagasaki were to some extent due to an inadequate Civil Defence organization, with resulting lack of warning, shelters and medical attention. This must be coupled with the complete lack of knowledge by the Japanese people of the existence and use of the bomb.

When the first bomb was dropped on Hiroshima by a single Super Fortress, the

inhabitants did not even bother to take cover, in fact large numbers of the population were standing in the streets watching the aeroplane, when the bomb was dropped. The bomb was burst in the air and the result was appalling.

It is possibly advisable at this stage to examine the major effects of the Atomic Bomb.

The first and possibly the most alarming is Radio Activity, which is in effect an overdose of X-ray. Although from an airburst bomb the residual effect is negligible, from a ground or a low burst the effect is persistent and would appear to last a very long time indeed.

The protection against Radio Activity is extremely difficult and at Bikini, where a trial bomb was dropped, radio activity was so persistent as to render impossible the close examination of its effects, with any degree of safety, till almost a month had elapsed.

The second effect is the flash burn. This is momentary but causes intense heat with highly lethal effect in the immediate vicinity and causes so many primary fires that the danger of a fire-storm is highly probable. The protection against flash burn, however, is comparatively easy and it was found that a shadow had given protection to both people and buildings in the two Japanese cities.

The third effect is that of blast. This is downwards and explains why an airburst bomb was used in the two raids. Blast did in fact cause the greatest damage to buildings and installations.

Having regard, then, to the three main effects of the atomic bomb, outlined above and its undoubted effect of speeding the conclusion of the war with Japan, it seems most probable that in future the war effect of a nation will be directed increasingly against the morale of its opponent.

TWO WEAPONS

It is agreed that the effect of the atomic bomb on modern cities is still largely guess-work, but having regard to the damage caused by only two atomic bombs compared with the deaths and damage caused by the total tonnage of other bombs dropped, it would appear that decisive results would be possible against a highly industrialized state by atomic bombing and biological warfare, only.

The coupling of biological warfare with atomic bombing can now be examined.

Biological warfare has not as yet been carried out on any scale which would enable its results to be examined with any degree of value or accuracy. The advent, however, of the atomic bomb has opened up new possibilities regarding its subsequent use.

The type of biological warfare which any enemy is likely to use, would be difficult to anticipate. Intelligence might not discover the enemy's decision to use biological warfare and the first warning might come when this form of warfare was first used in a raid.

It will be appreciated that whatever the effect of the atomic bomb on the morale of the people, the result is almost certain to be great devastation, with a corresponding disorganization of essential services. It would be at such a stage that the enemy could launch a biological warfare attack, with the prospect of further demoralizing the population. Unless some inkling of the type of biological warfare to be used had been received, training in counter-measures would have been severely limited, with the resulting lack of efficiency in dealing with this new threat.

In a future war, the enemy might launch his attack without any formal declaration of war, or warning of attack. The fact of having air superiority to launch a saturation raid does not now arise, as a single aircraft can now launch the atomic bomb. Indeed, the time will probably come when guided missiles, rockets of V-1 types will be used to launch the attack.

The question now arises—Could any civilian Civil Defence Organization deal with the scale of devastation and casualties which would arise?

In a highly industrialized State, it would be essential that the industrial potential of the State be maintained if the war is to be carried to its successful conclusion.

It must be assumed that the enemy's objectives, either civil industrial population of a vital area or isolated key points (transport, oil storage, etc.) have been listed. In a State, however, which is highly industrialized, the number of such areas and key points would be considerable and however efficient the Civil Defence system, the strain on manpower in providing an organization which could restore some or all of the industrial capacity of the stricken area(s) might be immense.

RETAINING MORALE

Furthermore, following such a raid, morale of the civilians would need to be retained by means of:

1. A system of evacuation of large numbers of the population to Reception Camps which would include housing and feeding and ultimate transport of the workers to their respective centres of occupation.
2. An efficient organization for the rescue of trapped and injured persons.
3. A well-organized health service to act and thus allay alarm in the case of biological warfare.

Manpower consideration tends to make the organization of a Civil Defence service largely on a voluntary basis, but however efficient the organization, it could hardly be expected to deal alone with a sudden and prolonged attack, or series of attacks, without seriously interfering with the industrial potential of the state.

Prior to any attack, however, it might be expected that a state of emergency exists and accordingly the Army might be partially or fully mobilized, but not so a predominantly voluntary Civil Defence organization.

If as it therefore appears that decisive results might be obtained by atomic bomb-

ing and biological warfare alone, then the *role of the Army*, if not actually changing, might at least have to be extended to implement the Civil Defence organization in the opening stages and possibly throughout the war.

It must be clearly understood, however, that Passive Defence alone would be no answer. It would not be possible to withstand a long period of destruction by atomic warfare. Retaliation is essential and must be immediate.

There are two possible aspects of the Army's task.

First, assistance to the Civil Defence in the event of the latter's partial inability to compete with raid damage.

Second, complete take-over from the Civil Defence organization of the command and control of Civil Defence operations both during and following the raid.

It must be clearly understood, however, that a complete take-over should only be considered in the case of severe casualties to Civil Defence staffs and personnel, or in the event of Civil Defence not being mobilized or adequately trained.

To cope with such a problem, it is obvious that whatever the future role of the Army, training at least in Civil Defence must be carried out by every unit. Bearing in mind that a strong striking force will always be necessary to launch an attack against the enemy with the least possible delay, it is imperative that the Territorial Army should play a big part in this scheme.

SPECIAL ARMY

To augment the Civil Defence organization throughout the State, it could then be possible to form groups, of the Regular and Reserve Army, near each vital area, with small groups near isolated key points.

A role of these groups could be to augment the local Civil Defence organization and should any formation leave the area, say for overseas, then it would be the Army's responsibility to ensure that another group would take its place.

Such Army groups would not only have local knowledge but might be expected to

mobilize near the area or key point for which they are responsible.

It would be essential for the Servicemen in Regular formations to receive some Civil Defence training so that Reserve Army formation which received them for the rest of their service, would have a large proportion of their personnel reasonably trained. It is too much to hope that the Reserve Army, with its very limited number of training hours, can be expected to carry out the complete training of the Active Force in Civil Defence. This is particularly emphasized when the priority tasks which may have to be undertaken by the Army immediately after a raid are examined.

These vary from reconnaissance, both from the ground and air, of the stricken area, to the recovery and disposal of corpses.

They include the control of refugees; the clearance of road arteries to the centre of the damage; first aid and stretcher-bearing; rescue work; transportation; housing and feeding refugees; and repairs to public utilities.

Other tasks in which the Army might be required to render assistance are:

Emergency lighting for rescue work, etc.

Elementary fire-fighting.

Hygiene, including the supply of drinking water.

Decontamination in all its aspects.

Salvage, from personal and household belongings to industrial plant and machinery.

Demolitions.

The training for all these tasks must obviously be co-ordinated on the highest level and it is most necessary that commanders and their staffs should attend the appropriate Instruction Centres and liaise with the local Civil Authorities at the earliest possible date.

In the unit some of these tasks may present difficulties until equipment and instructors become available. In the meantime, however, use should be made of lectures and films to demonstrate the problems and to illustrate how rescue, fire-fighting, etc., is carried out.

So soon as the necessary officers and senior NCOs have attended the appropriate courses, it will be possible for the unit to hold TEWTs and exercises dealing with problems such as refugee control, duties of Incident Officer, reconnaissance, co-operation with the Civil Authorities, etc.

In the case of Reserve Army Units, all officers and senior NCOs should have a sound knowledge of local geography, including shelters and communications, and should have carried out close liaison with the local Civil Defence organization and heads of public utilities.

BIG JOB FOR THE ARMY

The Civil Defence role, therefore, required of the Army embraces a wide variety, from the vast problem of initiating the clearance of a devastated area without any help from Civil Defence down to, say, the provision of a number of rescue teams to reinforce existing personnel.

The job may be simple, such as cordoning the exits from a stricken area in order to ensure early evacuation to prearranged

refugee camps, or it may mean the provision by at least a Brigade Group of a number of fire-fighting teams, the erection of B.W. Cleansing Centres, squads for repairs to electricity and water installations, the running of motor transport services, the erection of First Aid posts and the furnishing of hundreds of stretcher-bearers to carry casualties across vast areas of rubble.

It will be seen that many of these tasks already come within the scope (especially of certain specialized units) of present Army training and that it only needs a little implementation and imagination to make the average unit efficient in Civil Defence.

In conclusion, whilst it does appear that decisive results might be obtained by atomic bombing and biological warfare only, it must be appreciated that the primary role of the Army—which is to defeat the enemy—must not change.

It is equally obvious, however, that as a secondary role the Army must be prepared to assist in a Civil Defence role.



The Band passing the saluting base in Liliefontein Day Parade.



The Guard commanded by Capt. P. V. B. Grieve passing the saluting base.

CO's Speech

An impressive ceremony in Ottawa on Lilliefontein Day, 7th November 1950, saw the Regiment place a stone and plaque at the site of the field gun that played such a part in the action in which the Royal Canadian Dragoons so distinguished themselves.

Your Excellency, Honoured Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen:

We are gathered here today to recall the story concerning the field gun which you see before you and in so doing to do honour to brave men. Fifty years ago today Canadian soldiers fighting in the Transvaal in South Africa laid down their lives in defence of this gun and in the same action 3 Canadians were awarded the V.C. and another the D.S.O.

The South African War will long be remembered for the clean and decent way it was fought. It has been called the last of the Gentleman's Wars and we would all of us do well to remember the brave deeds done by both sides on those old

battlefields for as Thackeray has said "Bravery never goes out of fashion".

At first glance one might not be impressed by this piece of ordnance as compared with present day equipments, but in its day, well manned and served by gunners who prided themselves on their speed and accuracy, this gun was a feared and deadly weapon. To the enemy it was a prize, the capture of which might well turn the tide of battle.

Assuredly, this thought must have been in the minds of the Boers who, on that eventful morning fifty years ago, galloped boldly down from the hills to endeavour to cut off a British flying column charged with protecting a vital cross-country supply line. The R.C.D.s, supported by two Canadian field guns, had been given the task of rear guard, and hardly had the column begun to move when the first blow fell.

The attack came in straight for the guns. Without a moment's hesitation Lt. H. Z. C. Cockburn dismounted his men and resolutely engaged the galloping mass. The attackers pressed on, though under heavy fire and actually got to within 70 yards of the precious guns. The Dragoons were at last overwhelmed and the wounded Cockburn and those of his men who had not fallen in the fight were captured. The delay bought by their stand, however, enabled the guns to be moved back to new defensive positions to continue the fight.

It was not long before another concerted drive was made for the guns. This time Lt. R. E. W. Turner, although wounded, wheeled his troops to meet the attack. At this point a Colt Gatling MG was in danger of falling into the hands of the enemy when Sgt. E. J. Holland, though almost surrounded, succeeded in removing it to safety. The continued determined resistance of this small force finally halted the attack and the supply line remained secure.

The day's gallant action caught the eye of the Empire. The London *Gazette* announced that Lts. Cockburn and Turner and Sgt. Holland had been awarded the VC, and Lt. E. W. Morrison of the Canadian Artillery, the D.S.O. for his handling of the two field guns.

Lt. Cockburn later became a major in the G.G.B.G. He died in 1913. Sgt. Holland who died at Cobalt last year became a Major during the 1st World War and Lt. Morrison as Maj.-Gen. Sir Edward Morrison, commanded the Canadian Corps Artillery. Lt. Turner rose to be Lt.-Gen. Sir Richard Turner. I am happy to say that he is present today, on this auspicious occasion, together with some others who played their part in the action.

It is to pay tribute to these men, and to proclaim again their heroic deeds that the present members of the Regiment have placed at this gun site a plaque for all who pass to see, and seeing know, that daring and determination are still held high—that the example of their valour and devotion shines as a beacon to hearten and inspire us that "Bravery never goes out of fashion".

To His Worship

E. A. Bourque, O.S.G., D.B.A.

Mayor of Ottawa

To His Worship Mayor Bourque and to the citizens of Ottawa I wish to express my thanks for the privilege of placing this stone and plaque at this site, and on behalf of my Regiment present it to become a part of this proud national monument.

To His Excellency

The Governor-General

It is now my honour to ask His Excellency Field Marshal the Right Honourable the Viscount Alexander of Tunis, Governor-General of Canada, to unveil the plaque.



The CO delivering his speech.

Operation Redramp

By LT. M. L. A. WEISMAN

Shortly after supper on Thursday, 11 May, 1950, approximately 50 Regimental Signallers were told to stand-by and prepare for movement to Winnipeg. It all came quite suddenly. We had been reading about the flooding of the Red River, about the Army being moved into the city to help out, but it had first been news. It had all seemed quite distant up until then. It's hard to say whether we really thought we would be sent, but in any event, we went to bed with high hopes.

At approximately 0130 hrs. the fun began. The word had come. We were really going. Paul Revere had nothing on

several of our NCO's who had the job of waking up the married personnel who were to go. By 0600 hrs. people were coming into the Mess Hall for an early breakfast. Everyone seemed excited.

It was a real operational move. At 0700 hrs. we mounted trucks and took off for Ottawa. By 1130 hrs. we were in Ottawa, and an hour later we were at Rockcliffe Airport. One of the most sensational events of the move was our pay parade at the Airport. It was very gratifying indeed to see the co-operation afforded us by the Pay Corps. In the short period of about two hours a pay parade was arranged for



us, and we were all given a quite substantial "morale booster" before taking off.

At approximately 1430 hrs. Capt. Watson and half the party took off for Winnipeg. The rest of us were to go on a second North Star aircraft about an hour later. However, five hours later we were still sitting around Rockcliffe. We finally took off at 1930 hrs., and arrived in Winnipeg at midnight.

Stephenson Field was really operating in high gear when we arrived. Jeeps were scurrying about all over the runways, wireless equipment was being off-loaded from aircraft. The whole scene was one of extreme urgency. Most of us had not eaten since dinner and we were most happy to learn that the Airmen's Mess was operating on a twenty-four hour basis.

After eating, we went back to have a better look at our quarters, and to begin the business of settling in. Again, the bustle and rush began. Everyone was racing around trying to get beds and bedding. When the flurry subsided, we found that we were quartered in a Hobby Shop. Leather and power tools, etc., had all been pushed back against the walls, and I can personally say that I am indeed indebted to these machines, for without them I would have had no place to hang my clothes.

The next day we were issued with 14 vehicles, $\frac{3}{4}$ -ton Dodges, and 15 cwt FFW's, and here we got the clue to why we were sent to Winnipeg. We were to act as a mobile wireless reserve in the event of total evacuation of the city. We were to play an integral part in operation "Blackboy". The river reached a height of 30.3 feet above datum. At approximately 32 feet, operation "Blackboy" would have been put into effect. The reasons for this are best set forth in the *Winnipeg Free Press* of Tuesday, May 30.

Quote "At 32.5 feet above datum certain railway installations would no longer be operating. The warehouse areas with stocks of food and other supplies would be inaccessible. Bakeries and dairies would have

been put out of commission. Electrical plants would no longer be operative. Newspapers, radio stations, the telephone system would have been "blacked out". The water supply would have ceased to function properly.

"Winnipeg within a few hours would have been uninhabitable a city without lights, without heat, with no pure water, no sanitary facilities and with regular means of communication cut off and the people left in their homes becoming panic-stricken". Unquote.

Under such conditions, good communication would have been an essential. The city had been divided up into nine zones, each with a headquarters, and our task would have been to go out to any danger spot within a zone in order to provide first-hand information by wireless to zone headquarters.

After a few days in the city, which we spent in getting organized, checking our vehicles, etc., it began to appear that Blackboy would not be put into effect for some time, if at all, so we were given the task of replacing signallers from other units on various wireless nets throughout the city. I must say, without the least hesitation, that the way in which all ranks of the Regiment adapted themselves to new conditions and strange equipment, such as number 9 and 52 sets, was enough to make any R.C.D. proud of his Regiment's contribution to operation Redramp. We provided operators for the Navy, who worked on DUKW's, and operators who replaced Army Signals personnel, and everyone did an excellent job, sometimes under very adverse conditions.

It is quite difficult for me to put down, in anything but a three volume treatise, just exactly the jobs that each person performed. However, there are several isolated incidents that stick out in my mind, and these I hope will give you some idea of what we actually did do. The first humorous episode occurred while we were still waiting for our aircraft at Rockcliffe. Several of the chaps bought Ottawa news-

papers, and, we discovered to our amazement that there was an article on the R.C.D. and R.C.R. personnel who were being flown to Winnipeg. However, the rub came when we discovered that the article told that we were already in Winnipeg. That's really up to date news service.

Rations became a bit of a problem when we had our people spread out all over the city. Fortunately, we had vehicles at our disposal, and we organized a ration run in order to get hot meals out to the people on wireless nets. We used three trucks. Each would draw hot rations at meal-times and deliver them to the several stations which were allotted to them. At one particular meal, we ran into quite a disconcerting occurrence. Tpr. Atlas, who had the job of delivering rations in one far corner of the city, drove up to a particular station right on time, opened his three "hay boxes" full of rations, and to his amazement, found that they all contained corn. At the same time Tpr. Forster, in another part of the city, was finding out that all he had was meat, and at the same time Sgt. Harvey, R.C.R., in yet another corner of Winnipeg, discovered that all he had was potatoes. By now, you have no doubt realized what had happened. Tpr. Forster was quite the most fortunate, for he also had bread with him and thus managed to subdue his "customers" with hot beef sandwiches. Tpr. Atlas and Sgt. Harvey had to return to Stephenson Field and re-draw correct rations.

No article on Redramp would be complete without at least one "Dyke Story". One true one concerns a soldier of the PPCLI. One fine day Col. Cameron of the "Pats", was down looking over the dykes when this soldier came up to him, saluted smartly, talked to him, then took one smart pace to the rear, in order to salute, and fell off the dyke into the Red River. It's hard to say who would be more embarrassed in a situation such as this.

I am sure that the majority of my readers will be happy indeed to learn that the glowing friendship between Tpr. McGowan

and Tpr. Cleveland suffered no setback. When posting personnel to wireless stations, one of the most serious considerations was that of not separating these two comrades.

When away from home, mail is always important, and our thanks to Tpr. McGee for his excellent job as mailman. By unanimous agreement, McGee was our official mailman, and each day he made two trips to Fort Osborne Barracks to get our mail. We certainly had everything, including our own mechanized "pony express".

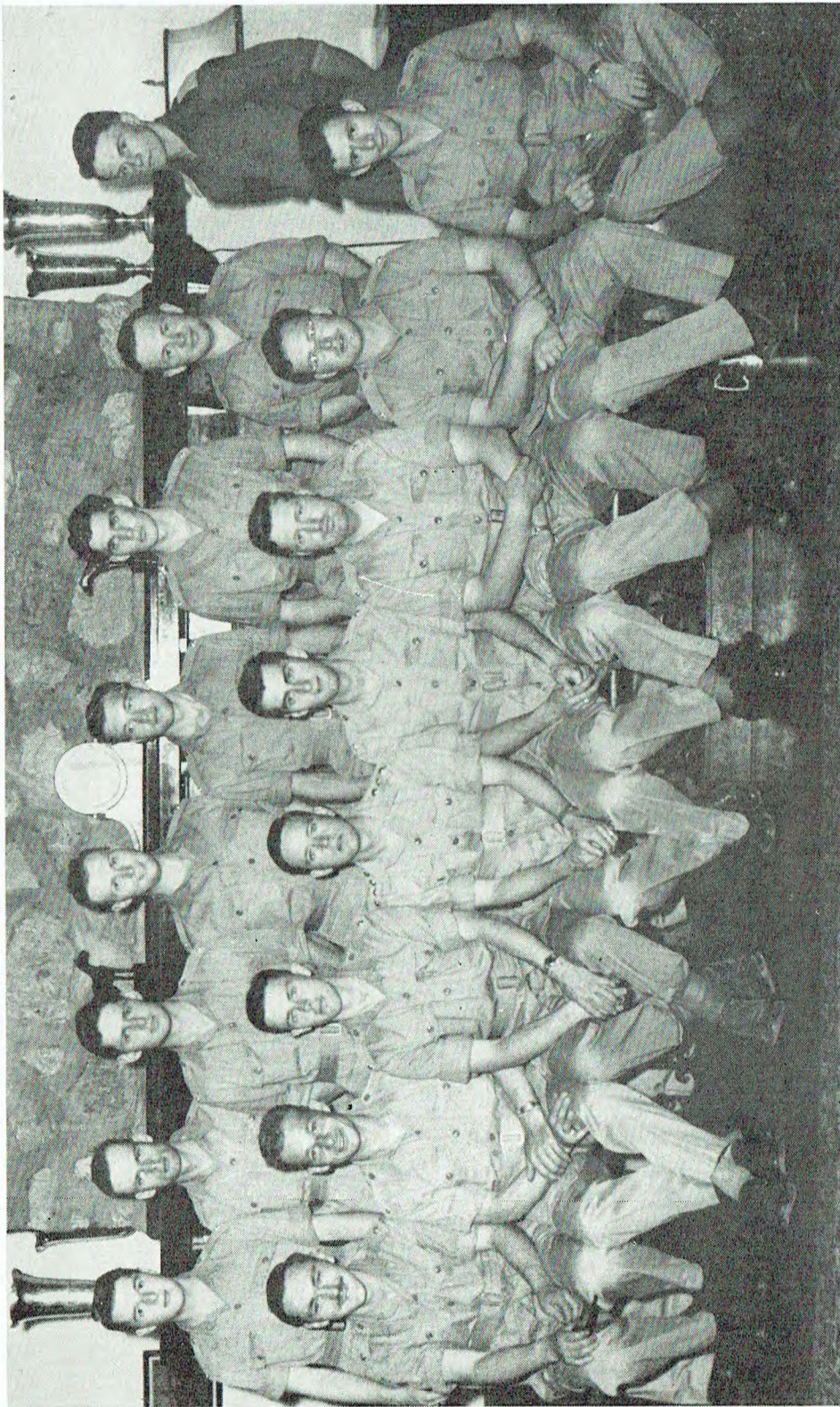
When Tuesday, May 30th, rolled around, it seemed as if we had just arrived, but everyone was glad to be going home. When we mounted the train at 2000 hrs., we all had a feeling of a job well done. The pressure was off, and we were quite content to relax and enjoy the hospitality of the C.P.R. We arrived back in Petawawa at approximately 0500 hrs., Thursday, May 1st, and from here proceeded on 5 days leave.

I don't suppose any of us will forget our venture. We gained a vast amount of experience in performing one of the Army's important peacetime tasks. It makes one feel proud of being a member of an organization like the Army, which is fitted to render such an invaluable service as was done in this emergency, and proud to belong to a Regiment which played its part and performed its duty so well.

The following personnel made up the force which assisted in operation Redramp:

ZP 1368 Capt. M. H. Watson
 ZB 3548 Lieut. M. L. A. Weisman
 SG 426 Sgt. G. B. Aitken
 SC 26364 Cpl. L. L. Williams
 SG 6332 L/Cpl. C. H. Gilbert
 SA 125643 Tpr. W. J. Clements
 SB 137457 Tpr. D. J. Cotterill
 SC 135748 Tpr. I. E. Bryans
 SB 153570 Tpr. M. Vandenbossche
 SH 61292 Tpr. E. H. Dzioba
 SG 740 Tpr. G. C. Kelly
 SC 58729 Sgt. C. E. Proulx
 SC 72287 Cpl. R. E. Williams
 SB 14238 Cpl. E. A. M. Cheney
 SB 153571 L/Cpl. K. G. Meeker
 SD 46676 Tpr. M. B. Cleveland

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Top, left to right: O/C D. A. Snow, O/C W. O'Sullivan, O/C D. H. Mitten, O/C W. E. Ward, O/C L. S. Caughill, O/C T. S. Shanahan, O/C R. J. Brault, O/C R. Hargreaves.

Bottom, left to right: O/C J. M. Besner, O/C E. R. Cochrane, O/C D. R. Watson, Capt. W. M. Donnelly in charge of C.O.T.C. operation "Safari", O/C P. J. Delicaet, O/C S. G. Durrant, O/C D. E. Gerrior, O/C D. J. Bourgeois.

Missing: O/C P. B. Gorlick, O/C A. Serbinoff, O/C R. C. Tait, O/C R. C. Tait, O/C D. B. Thacker, O/C J. M. Wilder, O/C M. S. Macpherson, O/C J. E. St. Laurent.

C.O.T.C.

This past summer the second group of Officer Cadets came to the Regiment for their final phase of training. After spending two summers at the Armoured Corps School, the cadets arrived for regimental training with the unit. On completion of their regimental indoctrination, the cadets, may apply for active or reserve force. This past summer three of the cadets applied for active force.

The twenty-two cadets representing practically every university in eastern Canada went through a very diversified period of training. Their duties consisted primarily of understudying regimental officers and assisting the instructional staff of the summer camp. However with a mass exodus of regimental subalterns to R.M.C. for courses, the cadets were called upon to fulfill any and every task. To begin their regimental duty, a number of the cadets were employed with the demonstration squadron, which performed for the students at the Canadian Army Staff College.

Unlike the Armoured Corps School, where the cadets are trainees in all respects, the cadets took on full responsibilities and privileges of regimental officers. This was one of the most important aspects of their summer training and will stand them in good stead in their future careers, whether army or civil.

The cadets arrived in May during the closing period of the regimental training and were introduced to the Regiment under real active duty conditions in the field. Lt. Col. Wattsford explained to them that "We have the armoured experience which you must acquire to become an efficient Armoured Corps officer. . . Train hard and learn everything you can. . . It will prove invaluable to you. . . Whatever you do here this summer, aim for the best, expect the worst, and aim for anything in between."

The cadets who assisted with the preparation of the demonstration squadron

were O/C Doug Thacker, O/C Bill Ward, O/C Roy Cochrane and O/C Stan Durrant. They did a fine job as measured by the complete success of the demonstration. The summer camp employed a number of cadets in the various wings . . . D. and M. O/C Doug Mitten, O/C Reilly Watson, O/C Paul Delicaet—Wireless; O/C Al Serbinoff, O/C Paul Gorlich—Tactics; O/C Lorne Coughill, O/C Dave Snow, O/C Bob Tait, O/C Don Gerrior, O/C Jack Wilder. O/C Del Bourgeois and O/C Edward St. Laurent, both from the University of Montreal, assisted as French-speaking instructors with the gunnery wing. Cadets employed in regimental posts were O/C Ray Brault, Q.M. stores; O/C Mac MacPherson, Transport; O/C Dick Hargreaves as Asst. Adj. A good number of the cadets were on hand to help with the reinforcement stream of the Special

Nominal Roll of Officer Cadets

TD 48003	O/C J. M. Besner, Univ. of Montreal
TD 14035	O/C L. S. Caughill, McMaster Univ.
TF 74497	O/C E. R. Cochrane, Dalhousie & Kings
TD 49034	O/C P. J. Delicaet, McGill Univ.
TD 49039	O/C S. G. Durrant, McGill Univ.
TD 49051	O/C D. E. Gerrior, McGill Univ.
TG 76489	O/C P. B. Gorlick, Univ. of New Brunswick
TA 947	O/C D. H. Mitten, Ont. Agricultural College
TD 49131	O/C A. A. Serbinoff, McGill Univ.
TF 74514	O/C D. A. Snow, Dalhousie & Kings
TF 74516	O/C R. C. Tait, Dalhousie & Kings
TD 49142	O/C D. B. Thacker, McGill Univ.
TC 3347	O/C W. E. Ward, Queen's Univ.
TD 49808	O/C D. R. Watson, Loyola College
TC 3349	O/C J. M. Wilder, Queen's Univ.
TD 49801	O/C R. J. G. Brault, Loyola College
TD 49806	O/C T. S. Shanahan, Loyola College
TC 3425	O/C M. S. Macpherson, Ottawa Univ.
TC 3418	O/C R. Hargreaves, Ottawa Univ.
TF 75666	O/C W. O'Sullivan, St. Francis Xav. Univ.
TG 76563	O/C J. E. St. Laurent, St. Thomas College
TG 76564	O/C D. J. Bourgeois, St. Thomas College

Force just prior to their returning to college.

The final period of their summer training was occupied by a crew commanders course. The course was conducted by Capt. "Bud" Donnelly and the article "C.O.T.C. Safari" gives a good account of the valuable training carried out during the scheme.

Prior to their departure, the cadets attended their final mess dinner with the

Royal Canadian Dragoons. The cadets expressed their thanks to Colonel Wattsford, officers and men for their kindness and hospitality during a very interesting summer at Petawawa.

The Regiment was very pleased to have the cadets here and hope their training will be of good practical value. We should also like to offer them our best wishes and congratulations on the completion of the final phase of their C.O.T.C. course.

C.O.T.C. "SAFARI"

By D. E. GERRIOR

On the 14th of August, 1950, a course of two weeks duration was laid on to round out the schedule for the Officer Cadets taking their third practical phase of training with the Regiment. This course was conducted ably by "B" Squadron personnel, assisted by lecturers and assistants from other departments of the Regiment.

Capt. "Bud" Donnelly was "Sunray", Sgt. Harte "Sunray Minor", and Sgt. Cumming "Molar".

The first week of the course was devoted to a series of lectures. Sgt. Harte covered troop drills, formation and troop tactics in general. Numerous "war stories" were heard. Sgt. Saunderson handled the Gunnery lectures in fine style, firing questions at all concerned, and rapping the knuckles of his former students (Borden days) for forgetting. Sgt. Aitkens covered the Wireless Procedure and gave an excellent refresher on the No. 29 Set. Lt. Leonard covered the Task System of Maintenance ably, and the slants on Vehicle Recovery were given by Capt. Ferguson, who also gave some gen on new equipment.

The last day of the week was used to whip the tanks into shape and complete stowage.

On Monday morning the movement to the Area began. At 0900 hrs., the troop started for Jorgens Plains. On arriving at TRG Point Jig, "Orders" groups were held, and a day of intensive formation drills

started. These drills were carried out in a series of "runs" after which was held a period of discussion and criticism, and a new troop leader appointed.

After a noon meal of tea, New Brunswick chicken (sardines to you), bread, jam and cheese supplied by Sgt. Cumming and prepared by the Cadets, no time was lost in getting back to work. Late in the afternoon, the move to Harbor began, and a Harboursing drill was carried out in the north-west corner of Gust Plain.

The intelligence elements of the striking force failed for the first time in not reporting the presence of numerous enemy nests of strengths approaching 10,000 in and around the harbour area. These enemy were characterized by being approximately one inch long, black in colour with yellow stripes around their bodies, and having a great affinity for jam, butter, bacon and bare bodies. The casualty rate was high among Crew members, and no success was achieved against their infiltration tactics.

The night was spent preparing defensive positions, fire pits, tents and general area organization. Wireless watches and guards were mounted, and quiet settled over the area.

Formations and drills were practised the following day and presence of a new enemy was reported by intelligence elements of our force. Armoured and Infantry elements were observed of approximately Brigade

strength, and further reports indicated that Lt. Leonard and Sgt. Saunderson had apparently been captured and were being used as interpreters.

Wednesday brought on the Regimental Sports Meet, and an exodus to the camp began. On Wednesday evening, everyone returned to the harbour, and due to a threatened enemy attack, half-hour notice was called.

At 0200 hrs., our striking force moved off, and launched a successful attack on Behnke Wood. Dawn saw consolidation completed, and a move to forward rally began.

A sudden savage enemy counter-attack recaptured Behnke Wood and we were forced to withdraw, edging steadily away towards Trig Point "Love". Due to continued enemy flanking attacks, engagement was broken off and our force retired behind Orange Road. We were joined by Dr. Foster, D.R.B., who acted as an observer and covered off crew positions in the troop leader's vehicle.

At 1400 hrs., we started a counter-attack, and having reason to believe that there was a security leak, crossed our Start Line before H hour. A flanking movement directed by O/C Cochrane caught the enemy off guard, but Sunray ruled that the action on our part was not according to the rules of war, and we returned to the Start Line.

In our second attempt, we suffered heavy casualties at a road block, but were successful in taking high ground around TRIG Point Love. From there we rolled rapidly southward, but encountered a tactical mine field at Stewart Road which caused some delay. This was soon cleared, and we moved quickly into position at Behnke Wood. We mounted an attack on Radke Hill and completely wiped out the enemy advance force. We then returned to our harbour area for POL and food.

Still on half hour notice, the crews prepared supper, and the culinary artistry of O/C "French-Fry" Besner was loudly proclaimed by the crew of "Able" tank.

At 2200 hrs., the troop moved off in a night attack on TRIG Point How. The enemy suffered heavy casualties when a direct hit exploded their main ammunition dump. For several minutes the night was lighted up by exploding thunder-flashes, flares, etc.

A night bivouac was made, in preparation for a dawn assault. However, since the sun was later in rising than was expected, the hill was not taken until 1000 hrs. After consolidation, the troop retired to the harbour area and began maintenance in preparation to returning to base.

The stamina of the drivers and crew members as well as that of the directing staff is to be complimented, since a total of 48 hours action was completed with only four hours rest.

An excellent show was put forward by all, and the concensus of opinion is that this exercise demonstrated that the degree of training achieved over the past three summers is indeed high. May many more of such schemes be carried out during future summers.

MOREUIL WOOD

*On Vimy Ridge and Paaschendael, our silent
Armies sleep*

*Through Summer's sun and Winter's gale
And 'neath the starry deep.*

*No more for them the dawn of day,
Nor sunset on the hill.*

*Their shouts and songs have died away,
Their giant strength is still.*

*The march of time goes swiftly by
And brings its care and toil,
But in eternal youth they lie,
Beneath a foreign soil.*

*With iron limbs and fire for breath,
They charged amidst the gloom
And shared along these fields of death
The comradeship of doom.*

*Yet not in vain they watch and wait,
Strong champions of the right,
They are the Warders of our gate,
And guard us through the night.
From selfish aim and paltry ease,
From slavery of the soul,
The men that saved the land are these,
They point us to the goal.*

—F. G. SCOTT

THE REGIMENTAL OFFICERS



Front Row: Capt. P. W. Ayriss, Major G. H. Pratt, Major G. I. Speedie, Lt.-Col. G. H. Wattsford, Major F. S. Corbeau, Major S. A. Nicol, Capt. P. V. B. Grieve.
Centre Row: Capt. H. L. M. King, (R.C.E.M.E.), Capt. M. H. Watson, (R.C. Signs.), Capt. V. J. Ferguson, Capt. C. H. A. Spencer, Capt. C. T. Cuthbertson, Capt. A. W. Matthewman, Capt. R. J. Perrault, (R.C.A.P.C.).
Rear Row: Lieut. A. D. Flay, Capt. W. H. Willis, Lieut. L. M. Wright, Lieut. G. T. Robertson, Lieut. G. H. Bell, Lieut. J. A. Whitton, Lieut. S. W. Leightizer, Lieut. A. K. Casselman.

In The Officers' Mess

It is always a welcomed task to inform those of the serving members who are not able to be with the Regiment, on the activities of the past year. This year the activities were numerous and varied.

The mess itself underwent considerable face lifting of late so that any of the old members returning for a visit will, we hope, be very pleasantly surprised.

Early in the spring a number of painting and decorating "bees" were held. The large veranda and terrace were painted giving a very fresh look to the whole front of the mess. A new library was added and the old

book room was turned into a ping pong room. The greatest remodelling project was that of the bar which was completely re-finished. A small bar room was built between the main lounge and the ladies' room, giving the mess much needed bar facilities.

The walls of the mess fairly bulged during the past year as we played host, first to the R.C.R. officers and then to the officers attending the Command winter school. With the beginning of the Special Force we were pleased to welcome a large number of officers who were here to help get the force rolling.

R.C.D. Officers Hold Annual Reunion Dinner

The annual Reunion weekend, May 6 and 7 held in the mess at Petawawa, will not be soon forgotten by those fortunate enough to be present. The whole affair was a great success, although the large number of our Camp Borden alumni who were unable to attend due to summer training, were noticeably missed.

The guests began arriving shortly before lunch on Saturday and things were well underway by late afternoon. The programme began with a visit to the Sergeants' Mess where a royal welcome was enthusiastically extended to our visitors. This was followed by cocktails in the Officers' Mess prior to the dinner. The dinner itself was most enjoyable from every standpoint.

The new guidon case, situated at the end of the table, contributed to the pleasant atmosphere. The long awaited case, which is eight feet high and constructed entirely of oak, is made most effective by indirect illumination from within the case. It greatly contributes to the quiet dignity of the dining room and it was fortunate that it could be ready for all the returning members to see.

The dinner was followed by the usual

after dinner speeches and toasts. In proposing the toast to the Regiment, Maj. Gen. C. Volkes said "the Regiment's exploits and achievements were sufficiently familiar to its members so that nothing I could say could add to its honours." Maj. Gen. C. C. Mann replied to the toasts and also favourably remarked on the progress of the unit since the end of the war.

Lt. Col. Wattsford then outlined the Regiment's activities over the past year, and felt that "the Regiment had surpassed all expectations, especially during the fall training period." As well as being able to meet its various training commitments, a large number of personnel were sent to the Armoured Corps school for trades training. The athletic activities, he felt, were contributing a great deal to the Regimental life. Insight was given into future plans. . . It is hoped to have a condensed Regimental history prepared so that each new recruit will learn of the traditions and achievements of the Regiment at the beginning of his training. A Regimental museum is also in the making along with the inauguration of an "R.C.D. Day" which could be celebrated annually. Civic authori-

ties in Ottawa have already been approached on plans for suitably honouring the twelve pounder gun saved at Liliefontein. It was at this battle, during the Boer War, that three Victoria Crosses were won by members of the Royal Canadian Dragoons.

General Mann was thanked by Colonel Wattsford for his very generous contribution to the mess, which is to be in the form of a "Staghound" armoured car. It is being constructed by Gold and Silversmiths Ltd., in London, England, and is to be a counterpart to the mounted Dragoon which is one of the mess table centrepieces. Such a contribution is particularly suitable in that it ties together the battle honours of the recent war with those of the past Regimental history.

The dinner was climaxed with a toast to fallen comrades proposed by Colonel Timmis. The group was then entertained with two films of old cavalry days . . . narration was by Colonel Timmis, who also "starred" in one of the films, as clown of the Regimental circus.

The "assault" process then began as guests retired to the newly renovated bar, which was subject to many complimentary comments.

Early Sunday morning guests were entertained at "Cupids Nests" by Colonel and Mrs. Wattsford and although the previous night's battle had been a heavy one few casualties were encountered and remarkable enthusiasm was evident. It was on this happy note that guests departed to their homes with the feeling that the Regiment was carrying on in good fashion.

Guests of honour attending the Reunion were Maj. Gen. C. Volkes, Maj. Gen. C. C. Mann, Brigadier J. D. B. Smith, Brigadier G. Walsh, Colonel R. S. Timmis, Lt. Col. F. N. Wilkes, Lt. Col. S. C. Bate, and Lt. Col. H. A. Phillips.

Large Change in Regimental Officers

The slate of regimental officers, over the past year, has changed considerably so that many old faces have gone and many new ones are present. The following changes may be of interest to serving members.

Lt. Col. G. J. H. Wattsford—Commanding Officer
 Maj. S. V. Radley-Walters, D.S.O., M.C.—Canadian Army Staff College
 Maj. G. I. Speedie—From Eastern Ontario H.Q., 2 i/c
 Maj. J. E. Beswick, M.B.E.—Canadian Army Staff College
 Maj. F. S. Corbeau, D.S.O.—Regimental Training Officer
 Maj. G. M. Wood—Posted to R.C.A.C. School
 Maj. S. A. Nicol—O.C. "A" Squadron
 Maj. G. H. Pratt—O.C. "B" Squadron
 Maj. G. G. Bell—From Army Headquarters; O.C. "H.Q." Squadron
 Capt. R. Haran—Canadian Army Staff College
 Capt. P. V. B. Grieve—Adjutant
 Capt. A. W. Mathewman—Quartermaster
 Capt. W. E. Milner—Posted to the R.C.A.C. School
 Capt. J. H. Macdonald—Posted to A. & T. Staff
 Capt. V. J. Ferguson—Technical Adjutant
 Capt. P. W. Ayriss—2 i/c, "H.Q." Squadron
 Capt. E. Blais—Canadian Army Staff College
 Capt. J. H. Gray—To A & T Staff, 1st Hussars
 Capt. C. H. A. Spencer—2 i/c, "B" Squadron
 Capt. R. J. Perrault—Paymaster
 Capt. M. H. Watson—Signals Officer
 Capt. C. Cuthbertson—From A.H.Q. Ottawa; 2 i/c, "A" Squadron
 Capt. N. A. Buckingham—I.O., 25 Canadian Inf. Brigade H.Q.
 Capt. W. M. Donnelly—Retired
 Lieut. J. A. Beament—On course in the U.K.
 Lieut. J. G. Dubord—Posted to Montreal
 Lieut. B. S. Lake—Transferred to R.C.A.S.C.
 Lieut. J. R. Caron—Transferred to R.C.A.P.C.
 Lieut. W. G. Rivers—Retired
 Lieut. G. H. Bell—From R.C.A.C. School; Mess Secretary
 Lieut. A. D. Flay—From R.C.A.C. School; Intelligence Officer
 Lieut. L. M. Stone—1st/2nd Armoured Squadron (SF)
 Lieut. A. K. Casselman—From C.O.T.C.; Asst. Adjutant
 Lieut. S. W. Leightizer—From C.O.T.C.; H.Q. Squadron
 Lieut. W. H. Willis—H.Q. Squadron
 Lieut. C. C. Gaskin—"B" Squadron
 Lieut. D. D. Leonard—From R.C.A.C. School; "B" Squadron
 Lieut. G. T. Robertson—"B" Squadron
 Lieut. J. A. Whitton—From R.C.A.C. School; "A" Squadron
 Lieut. L. M. Wright—From R.C.A.C. School; "A" Squadron
 Lieut. M. L. Weisman—From C.O.T.C.; attached to R.C.A.C. School
 Lieut. J. A. Kisilius—From C.O.T.C.; attached to R.C.A.C. School
 Lieut. D. H. Wheeler—From R.C.A.C. School; attached to R.C.A.C. School

Officers' Mess Finishes Mess Activities with Buffet Supper

On Saturday, June 24, a mixed buffet supper was held in the mess with slightly over a hundred guests in attendance. Amongst the guests were Maj. Gen. Volkes, Lt. Col. P. R. Bingham, and H/Maj. R. Durnford. An excellent meal was enjoyed by those present and due to fortunate weather, guests were able to enjoy the meal in the open air. Supper was served at 8.30 and dancing followed in the mess.

This was the last mess function prior to the opening of the Summer Camp Mess.

Mess Committee

It would certainly be out of order if we failed to give proper recognition to the various Mess Committees which have had the job of running the mess over the past year.

The end of 1949 saw Capt. "Rennie" Haran as P.M.C. with Lt. L. Stone as his second pair of hands. The fall saw an increase in the number of officers joining the regiment and consequently increased the problems of the mess committee. However with his term of service over Capt. Haran headed for a well deserved rest at Staff College!!

His predecessors were Major G. Pratt as P.M.C. and Lt. "Monty" Weisman as secretary. To say that their tour of service was a stormy one would be a mild explanation. They are to be very heartily congratulated. During their tour of duty a very large number of successful "d's" were held. These included the New Year's dance and New Year's day reception, the Valentine Masquerade, the mixed dinner in March, all in addition to the regular mess functions.

Late in the spring our present mess committee began to function consisting of Major S. A. Nicol and Lt. Wheeler. Lt. Wheeler was later replaced by Lt. "Harry" Bell who is at present juggling the officers' mess accounts. Although the mess was relatively inactive during the summer months by all appearance the present mess committee will have a busy time this fall.

Officers' Mess Mixed Dinner

The event of the month for March was the mixed dinner, held Tuesday, March 21. The evening was similar to that of the regular mess dinner with one unique exception . . . the presence of feminine guests. This is one of the few opportunities during the year that the wives are given insight into exactly what happens every third Tuesday of the month when "hubby" dons his serge for a night at the mess.

The evening began in the conventional manner with cocktails and pre-dinner chit chat. The colour and charm contributed by our lady guests however was a very pleasant addition to the evening.

The dinner was a memorable occasion for a number of reasons. The orchestra of The Royal Canadian Regiment played during the dinner, lending to the enjoyable atmosphere of the dining room which was lit by candle light.

After the enjoyable meal and appropriate toasts, it became evident that a party atmosphere was in the making. Table napkins were joined in a daisy chain and it was this little party activity which will help us long remember our pleasant evening! The table, which had been extended to the limit in order to accommodate the large number of guests, was separated by the rubbing of the napkins on the legs and needless to say our beautiful table parted company right in the centre. To say the very least, you could not have created a bigger surprise by planting a bomb under the P.M.C.'s chair. After the initial shock, and pulses had returned to normal, everyone began to see the humorous side of a rather embarrassing situation. The evening was one of the finest social functions of the year.

For the dinner we were very pleased to welcome as our guests Lt. Col. and Mrs. MacGregor, Major and Mrs. Wallace and Major and Mrs. Forgie, all of Pembroke.

Reception Is Held for Colonel and Mrs. Todd by the Officers of the R.C.D.

Upon arrival in Petawawa Military Camp of Colonel D. K. Todd, D.S.O., who has taken up the position of Camp Commandant, the Royal Canadian Dragoons lost very little time in preparing an appropriate reception for he and his wife. Colonel and Mrs. Todd were entertained at a cocktail party and buffet supper in the Officers' Mess on Saturday, 23rd of September.

Colonel and Mrs. Wattsford received and introduced the officers and their wives to Colonel and Mrs. Todd prior to the buffet supper in the dining room.

Colonel Todd had been Commandant at Camp Borden since 1948. He is no stranger to the Regiment since during his tour of service at Camp Borden the Regiment was stationed there.

The Regiment welcomes Colonel and Mrs. Todd most heartily to Petawawa.

R.C.D. Officers' Mess Holds Valentine Masquerade

The officers' mess added to its list of successful social activities this year with the

Valentine Masquerade held on Saturday evening, Feb. 18. It certainly was one of the most colourful affairs of the winter season and all the "gay hearts and gentle mess members" were on hand to take part in the festivities.

Practically every type of dress was reproduced for the occasion ranging from historical robes of Charles II (Capt. "Bill" Milner) to the modern version of the minstrel show (Col. Wattsford was later discovered under the black grease paint which had everyone believing that Larry Parks had crashed the party).

Major Lithgow's (R.C.R.) ensemble should not go without mention since it attracted more attention than the Korean War! He sported a very "India like" moustache topped with a khaki sun helmet and dress tails jacket, supported by red beach shorts which he finally confessed belonged to Mrs. Lithgow. Finally a pair of very "conservative" socks supported by conventional type garters.

Something new in entertainment was also introduced at the masquerade in the form of a floor show. Written and directed by

(Continued on page 67)



The South African Veterans in Liliefontein Day Parade.

Old Comrades

By J. B. HARRISON

A year certainly passes quickly and here it is already the dead-line for another column as witness a telegram received to-day, 17th Sept., (when we were doing an honest day's work at home, asking us for our copy "presto" or we would be on an absentee report (at least our matter would be). We still feel that a quarterly would be a better show, as our memory, enfeebled by all those years during which we had to do no thinking, experiences difficulty in remembering the events of a twelvemonth, and particularly in recording them in proper chronological order.

The Association in Toronto still flourishes, in fact the second year promises to be far in advance of the first. Membership still continues to swell, as do the number of unpaid ones. A lot of new faces have re-appeared during the past twelvemonth chief among them being John Smith, ex Cook Sgt. "B" Sqn. from away back, and who has returned from the old land to re-settle in Canada. John looks very well, in fact "no change" would fairly describe him. The activities of the association during the year included a Spring Dance, held at the Amps Club on Wellesley Street at their new club rooms, very posh, and a really grand evening. Nice to get away from the Armouries, and the plush and well chesterfielded "smooching" lounges were very popular. The Second Post-War picnic to Niagara-on-the-Lake exceeded the wildest expectations of even the most optimistic member of the committee (ourselves no less) both in attendance and in entertainment. Taffy Morgan dispensed cheer, pop, ice-cream, etc., to the kiddies and did a wonderful job. Those of you who after last year's event were somewhat abashed to learn that 27 gallons of tea were consumed during that day will be relieved to learn that this year it was only 8. The hundred and fifty odd who embarked from

Toronto were joined during the afternoon by a contingent from St. Catharines, Niagara Falls and that area. 'Twas nice to meet again our old friend (especially at leave time) Cliff McBride who motored up from the Falls as did "Available" Jones. Both these lads are now things in the world of finance, and we believe work in the same branch. Danny Weir from St. Catharines, Eddie Groves from Burlington were but a couple of others who attended. 'Twas nice too, to see our old friend (especially during Crookham days) Jack Dutton on hand, and to note that he is his usual entertaining self. The events for both children and adults resulted in large fields for every event, and we assisted on the mike until it came time to announce the Ladies' Sack Race. "Smitty" had provided a large number of well washed potato bags, and we unconsciously announced "Come out for the Ladies' Sack Race. We have a whole bunch of old bags and only a few ladies so far". The resultant stony silence made us realize that perhaps we were not quite understood. The re-union spirit was still very much in evidence as witness a terse message received over the teletype the next day (Sunday) from Taffy "More black coffee sold at the booth today than was sold tea at last year's picnic" which led us to believe that somebody missed the boat. This will definitely be an annual affair from now on.

The Association entered a team in the Veterans' Cribbage League last year and finished in fourth place in Group "B". Such stalwarts as Johnny Dowdell, Norm Stafford, Fred Sturges, Hughie Patterson and Russ Coulter, aided by a sundry assortment of youngsters such as Lorne Marks, Ed Johnson, Al Bakalis, Cy Shepherd and W. C. Daniels generally gave a very good account of themselves. Also in evidence, either by winning all six or losing the same

was "Dry-Gulch" Deeth who is now an official of the League. Home games were played at the Sergeants' Mess, Governor General's Horse Guards, University Avenue Armouries through the kindness of their Mess President, Jack Sterritt. Any players who are not now enrolled can still do so for the current year by phoning "Gulch" Deeth at GE 0354, ourselves at HO 9172. We feel we can easily cop the cup if we get enough players.

Another dance is planned for the 27th October at the same locale. To celebrate Hallowe'en and as a Re-union Dance, this should bulge the walls with attendance. Smithy expects for a record attendance, and to those of you who missed the last one, we can only say "come on out and see for yourself". It's a very posh place and a good time is assured everyone.

About people and things:—Steve Bellak (ex Q.M. Clerk, later Educational Advisor) of Philadelphia, Pa., was in town and phoned us before he left. Steve is now in plastics and contemplates returning to God's Country. Jake M. Lord has now gone to Washington, D.C., where he is something at the Canadian Embassy there. Probably a dispenser of cheer we suspect. We will be only too glad to let you know the whereabouts of any ex-member in whom you have an interest (we don't mean who owes you lire or guilder). With some 450 names on our mailing list, you should be able to find out about anyone. "Pappy" Hall at the Exhibition stopped for a moment as he wheeled a twenty ton truck by us and hollered "When's the next meeting?" and others seen there included Fred Norris, Art Liddiard and the entire Gord Campbell family with their arms full of "winnings". Gord is presently printer-in-chief to the

association and is responsible for the very posh notices, programmes and tickets which grace every R.C.D. "Do".

There is still room in the Association for any members who are not presently on the mailing list. The next General Meeting is to be held at the Sappers Club, 40 Murray Street, Toronto, on Friday, September 29th, at 8.30 p.m., so be sure and come along if the *Springbok* reaches you in time.

Cy Shepherd, our First Vice, is presently in the East General Hospital recovering from an operation. His presence there has given rise to another department of the Association, the Blood Donors Group. It is hoped by this method to have a number of volunteers on hand to replace blood banks which may be debitted by members of the Association or their families. It is intended to form a Committee at the next meeting. We managed to get a number of volunteers on Cy's behalf and would have had more only that Cy insisted that they all be Molson addicts. He said he didn't want to leave hospital completely recovered but with a taste for Blue Top.

At the beginning of this column we wondered what on earth we would write about, and here we have already probably exceeded our space. Drop us a line if you have anything interesting to tell us about any ex-member, or even about yourself. We will answer all letters promptly which will become our property and which may be used to fill up further columns of this nature. And, don't forget to send your buck along to the Editor. We are providing him with a complete nominal roll of all our members, so if you should get a copy of the *Springbok* gratis, slip them the buck by the next mail.

Old Comrades, Quebec Branch

By GEOFFREY WILLIAMS

Although the Quebec Branch has not been as active as we would like, we are hoping that the coming year will be more successful. At present a lot of the younger

lads are a bit unsettled with employment, housing, new families, etc., but we are looking to a more successful year.

Last winter another large Christmas

party was arranged with an excellent show. Unfortunately the weather was atrocious and fewer were able to attend than during the previous year.

There are a good many of the old lads in and around Montreal and it is always good to hear from them. Major J. P. Gautier is with the Montreal branch of the Dominion of Canada General Insurance Co. He informed us that Dick Kerrigan is with the Bell Telephone Co., in Montreal and Ted Fuger is in real estate at Pte. Claire,

Que. The Dominion Burlington Textile Mills seems to be a favourite spot for old members of the Regiment. Major Veitch is top executive, Paul Lavigne is on the staff after a couple of years in Kingston. Ed Savard is in their Sherbrooke, Que., branch after trying to make his "million" at stock broking for a year. Tom Harvey and Bill Maker are in the Montreal office. It would appear that the Dominion Burlington Mills would be a good place to catch a few subscriptions to the *Springbok*.

(Continued on page 67)

Passing of Old Comrades

Distinguished Soldier, General Williams, Dies at 82

Maj.-Gen. Victor A. S. Williams, distinguished Canadian soldier and commissioner of the Ontario Provincial Police during the hectic days of prohibition and the outbreak of the second world war, died Monday, December 14, 1949.

Son of a famous military family, he was born at Port Hope in 1867. His earlier education was obtained at Trinity College school in Port Hope. He was a graduate of the Royal Military College at Kingston and then became an Inspector of the Royal Northwest Mounted Police, forerunner of the R.C.M.P.

Leaving the force, he enlisted with the Mounted Infantry at Winnipeg and was made a provisional lieutenant in 1889. Some years later he was transferred to the Royal Canadian Dragoons at Toronto as a Captain and with that rank served in the South African War. He returned from this expedition with the Queen's Medal with five clasps and was twice mentioned in despatches.

Back in Toronto once more, he became Commandant of the Royal School of Cavalry and in 1905 became the officer commanding the Eastern Ontario district, with headquarters in Kingston. He commanded the Canadian troops at the coronation of King George V in 1911.

The outbreak of the first world war saw him commandant at Valcartier before going

overseas with the first Canadian contingent.

In the front line trenches at the famous battle of Sanctuary Wood he earned the unenviable distinction of being the first Canadian general to be taken prisoner. He was released in an exchange of prisoners about two years later.

William Henry Higgs

We regret to hear of the death of William Henry Higgs who died at his home in Toronto on Friday, 23rd of June, 1950.

Mr. Higgs, a member of the Canadian Corps of Commissionaires, was born in England in 1890. He served in the Canadian Permanent Force with the Royal Canadian Dragoons from April 1912 to August 1919, including active duty with the Regiment during the first world war. Mr. Higgs will be remembered by old comrades as a tall man of 6'3" with an erect and soldierly bearing.

R.S.M. J. Y. MacDonald

We are sorry to announce the death of R.S.M. John Y. MacDonald in the Toronto General Hospital on 4th October, 1950. R.S.M. MacDonald served in both world wars and during World War II was Regimental Sergeant Major of Camp Borden.

Prior to the outbreak of war in 1939, he was Squadron Sergeant Major of "B" Sqn., Royal Canadian Dragoons, stationed at Stanley Barracks, Toronto.



Front row, left to right: W.O. II Wilkie, W.O. II Dufault, W.O. II Deeming, Capt. P. V. B. Grieve, R.S.M. Smith, Lt. Col. G. H. J. Watsford, W.O. II Croft, W.O. II Haskett, W.O. II Strachen.
Middle row, left to right: S/Sgt. Vincent, Sgt. Bortle, Sgt. Reed, Sgt. Toms, Sgt. Rolphe, Mr. W. Bull, Sgt. Jamieson, Sgt. Aitken, Sgt. Saurders, Sgt. Forbes.
Back row, left to right: Sgt. Hill, Sgt. Watter, Sgt. Thompson, Sgt. Hart, Sgt. Cowden, Sgt. Johnson, Sgt. Prettie, Sgt. Baillie, Sgt. , Sgt. Sholte, Sgt. Van Allen, Sgt. Ranger.
Four members absent from Picture: Sgts. J. Cumming, Ferguson, R.M.P. Raets, Short.

Sergeants' Mess

This year was a period of large change over of personnel and the influx of new members from the Corporals' Lounge swelled the Sergeants' Mess roster considerably. The mess welcomes all the new faces and hopes your stay with us will be a long and "expensive" one. After all we have to make bar profits someway!!

A successful children's party was held in the mess on the 18th of December. Santa ("Taffy you know who") gave out with a multitude of toys and candies for the kiddies. S.S.M. "Flash" Haskett acted as M.C. and introduced St. Nick to the children and their mothers.

The 19th of January saw the "event of the year", namely the "Pig Rodeo" which was staged at the mess. The evening began with the arrival of the farmers and gentlemen farmers (those who had no use for overalls and didn't want to get their sugar bag seat covers dirty) and continued on in normal fashion until 2300 hours when the "Rodeo" took place. It was here the abnormal took over! Each unit was represented by one member with Sgt. Sauve landing the porker in the record time of 37 seconds. Other contestants were Sgt. Van Allen, Capt. Seymore representing the officers, Sgt. Brown and C.S.M. Leach. Mrs. Elmer represented the women and landed the pig in 51 seconds. When last seen, the pig was leading Sgt. Sauve home!

The 4th of March marked the event of a treasure trail quiz, and thanks to our generous sponsor the "Good Year Goody Gum Co." (they supplied us with elastics and sufficient gum to make spit balls) and M.C. "Flash" Haskett, a very pleasant evening was enjoyed. Bill Bull was really surprised when one of the questions asked was, "who is the Regimental barber"? The value of the question—one cent. Strangely enough it wasn't answered correctly. After all you couldn't even get the correct time for that kind of money.

On the 12 April, the monthly mess meeting was held in conjunction with the dining-in night. Usually a steak or chicken supper was served so that it was of little difficulty to "persuade" people to attend. The mess meeting followed supper, after which card games began. Due to the large influx of living in members these dining-in nights have been discontinued for the present.

Sunday, 30th July, 1950, the annual children's party was held at the officers' beach. Each child received free fruit and ice cream during the afternoon. S.S.M. "Flash" Haskett started the field events off at 1500 hrs. There were races for both girls and boys of all ages with a great many valuable prizes for the lucky winners. A policeman (Sgt. Jim Cummings) and a clown (S.S.M. "Taffy" Deeming) kept the crowd in stitches all afternoon and they finally ended up with a dip in the Ottawa river. The feature attraction was a composite-tug-of-war. The winners of course were R.C.D. personnel and they received a big hand for their efforts.

A photographer was on hand to take family group pictures.

A buffet supper was served and a vote of thanks goes to all the committee members who worked so hard to make the afternoon a success.

In December 1950 the mess was remodelled slightly. The wall in the anteroom was removed making the lounge much bigger. The mounted dragoon was placed behind the bar on the top shelf where all can see. At present the mess bar is being redone with leatherette and plywood so that there is a very noticeable difference in its appearance. "One might even say cocktailish"!!

The sporting event of the year as far as the Sergeants' Mess was concerned, was the hockey game between the members of the R.C.R. Sergeants' Mess and ourselves. We

got our yearly battle of the "hockey sticks" over with (believe me, it's a trying ordeal at the best of times) and after a good game, all retired to the R.C.R. mess for "picker uppers". "Taffy" Deeming was heard to say "they beat us on their jump conditioning . . . da bums! Think we will have to

start calling "Taffy" "Impartial Deeming" pretty soon!!

It was a very good game though and we really aren't kicking although we have it on good authority that due to their excessive bar profits they were able to pay more for their imports!

The Corporals' Lounge

When? Where? How and Why? The answer: Because I know that this is an awful way to start this article but it projects the conversation between the author and "powers that be" when told he must do this article and being a little dull (today is Sunday which means I spent the night before in the Lounge) it was the only thing I could think of that seemed appropriate. Maybe I will improve as we go along.

This article is supposed to cover one whole year with the Corporals' Lounge but being short on material and memory, I hope I will be exonerated if any specific event that members feel should rate an honourable mention is missed.

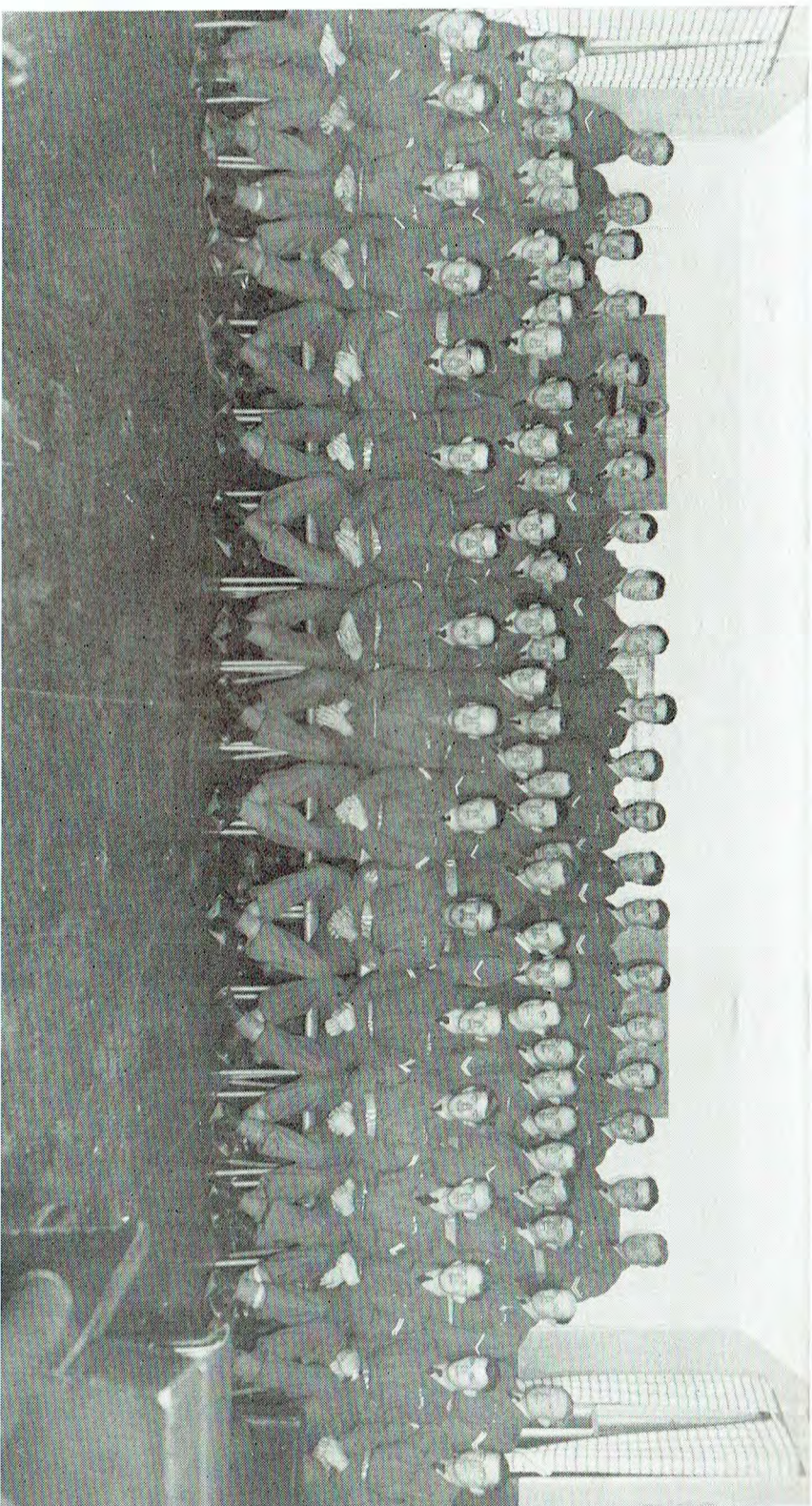
During late fall most members were kept quite busy preparing for the festive season quite commonly known as Xmas. Observers claim that the R.C.D. Corporals all but wore through the sidewalk in front of the two, and only two, stores being hinted about. Of course, it must be remembered that there are quite a few short people, Joe Barrett being no exception, who play havoc with Pembroke's cement carpets by taking more steps than tall people like myself. This added expense is absorbed by Pembroke's richer people who glumly suggested that short Corporals wear higher heels thus putting another hole in George's pocket.

Corporal LeRoy "Skip" Ayerst, "Moon" Mullin, "Maxie" Dean and "Fatboy" Keith were the only people old enough to participate in the curling last winter so its effects on the Mess were negligible. Of course there were times, when the R.C.R.

Corporals felt brave enough to challenge us, that any member that happened to be in or around the Mess was drafted to uphold the honour of the Dragoons. On one occasion Eddie "Moe the Menace" Moore was one of the aforementioned draftees. On finding that he was unable to push the "big rock" to the other end of the ice he was told by "Sweeper" Oakley of the R.C.R. to wit "another beer, another foot" and ended up bouncing them off the back-stop.

During the winter, bowling made a great impression on the Mess with the Corporals' Lounge well represented in the Regimental Bowling Team (7 out of 9 being junior non-coms). The Regimental Bowling Team did a real job, leading the Pembroke City League all season but were nosed out in the finals. The Mess was represented by such as Cpl. "Moon" Mullin, Cpl. "Cliff" Carpenter, Cpl. "Cash" Robilliard, Cpl. "John Q" Copeland, L/Cpl. "Carl" Cyr, L/Cpl. "Eddie" Moore, L/Cpl. "George" Fitzpatrick.

By jogging my memory I seem to recall that the Corporals' Lounge played a game of hockey against the Sergeants but can't quite recall the score. "Zero" Ayerst played goal and was supported by such stalwarts as "Moon" Mullin, "Cliff" Carpenter, "Cash" Robilliard, "Fat" Adair, "Willie" Williams (without glasses), "Willie" Williams (with glasses) and John Campbell. Right from the start it appeared to be a grudge match and fortunately the only injury occurred when Sgt. "Kenny" Waugh and "Moon" Mullin collided in



Front row, left to right: Cpl. Carpenter, Cpl. Clark, L/Cpl. Forsythe, L/Cpl. Favreau, Cpl. Ricard, L/Cpl. Laplante, Capt. P. V. B. Griève, L/Cpl. Christie, Sec., Lt-Col. Watsford, Cpl. Arnold, Pres., R.S.M. Smith, Cpl. Mott, Cpl. Cheney, Cpl. Barrett, Cpl. Robilliard, Cpl. Camley, Cpl. Williams.

Second row, left to right: Cpl. Keith, L/Cpl. Gray, L/Cpl. De-Veto, L/Cpl. Raeside, L/Cpl. Brown, E., L/Cpl. Brown, L/Cpl. Shields, L/Cpl. Vandebossche, Cpl. Creagan, L/Cpl. Williams, L/Cpl. Crawford, L/Cpl. Fitzpatrick, L/Cpl. Moore, L/Cpl. MacDonald, L/Cpl. Leahy, L/Cpl. Williams, L/Cpl. Cunliffe, L/Cpl. Cleveland, L/Cpl. Marleau, L/Cpl. Gilbert, L/Cpl. Prendergrast, L/Cpl. Thompson, L/Cpl. Ainsworth, L/Cpl. Trudell, L/Cpl. Simnott, Cpl. Scupello, L/Cpl. Barber, Cpl. Fiset, L/Cpl. Cunningham, L/Cpl. Oram, L/Cpl. Weatherby, L/Cpl. Comeau, L/Cpl. Campbell, Cpl. Woollard.

Back row, left to right: L/Cpl. Dzioba, L/Cpl. Martin, L/Cpl. Forrester, L/Cpl. Gould, L/Cpl. McLean, L/Cpl. Price, Cpl. Selman, Cpl. Millar, L/Cpl. Grabowski, Cpl. Christiani, L/Cpl. Parsons, L/Cpl. Atlas, Cpl. Milberry, Cpl. Winters, Cpl. Graham, L/Cpl. Douglas, L/Cpl. Williams, T. C., L/Cpl. Coleman, L/Cpl. Holman, L/Cpl. Wake, Cpl. Denham.

centre ice. "Kenny the Butcher" Waugh emerged unhurt but "Moon" Mullin came up with a nasty gash on the noggin. This left the Corporals' rooters crying "foul, foul" and such and it is to be noted that later in the year Sgt. Waugh was posted to A. & T. Staff. Of course the latter has no bearing on the subject but a silent toast of achievement was raised in the Mess shortly afterward.

Getting on the subject of dances, etc., it must be admitted that the Mess has had some wonderful dances. The New Year Dance was a wonderful success as was the Hard Times Party. At one of these do's John Q Copeland was seen lovingly fondling a pre-war R.C.D. horse blanket. I guess John was dreaming of the past. At the Hard Times Party prizes were given for costumes and some were certainly original. One woman was seen in issue longies and it was said that it was the first time long underwear looked so good. Joe Barrett and Ray Camley stole the show with their outfits. Only casualty was Wally Leahy who ended up on "the mat" when he woke up without a uniform for Church Parade the next day. Claimed it was locked in the QM Stores, of all places.

The latest dance of mention was held 16th September. This dance also was a great success (R.C.R. Corporals take note) with more than one envious glance coming from Lt.-Col. Bingham, the Commanding Officer, The Royal Canadian Regiment. Other prominent guests included Col. D. K. Todd, D.S.O., the new Camp Commandant and Lt. Col. G. J. H. Wattsford, our own "Father of Fathers". Highlight of the dance was the magnificent buffet lunch which was prepared by "Harry" Baker, of Officers' Mess fame. For members of the Mess and guests from Pembroke and other surrounding communities it was a real treat to see such a beautiful lay-out of grub.

During the Regimental and Camp Sports Meets the "Point Parade" was lead by "Willie" Crawford, Frankie Price, Gordie Comeau and Carl Cyr. Willie Crawford

took top honours in the Regimental Meet two years running in 1948 and 1949 and also in the Camp Meet in 1948. This year, however, he was nosed out by Lieut. Kisielius in both Regimental and Camp Meets. In the Camp Meet the boys mentioned above and led by Lieut. Kisielius really swamped the R.C.R. with a final standing of 88 to 40 (the R.C.R. and R.C.D. entering only).

A silent tribute must be paid here to the lads listed hereunder who have been posted during the last year: Cpl. Don Rhodenhizer to London; Fitz Fitzgibbon to London; Moon Mullin, John Copeland, Gord McNulty, Jake Grove, Hank Meeker, "PJ" Smith, Ken Hood, Frank Mears, G. L. Griffin, Tom Taylor, Don Simpson, Frosty Face Daigle, Ray Bechard all to the R.C.A.C. School at Camp Borden and Bill Steele to 5 Personnel Depot at Kingston to mention a few.

Incidentally Don Rhodenhizer paid us a visit a while back and instigated some real parties. It is said that some wives were glad to see him go back. Is that gratitude? One thing we will admit is that the Mess hasn't been the same since Don left us.

The Mess was recently the scene of a reception for Gordie Woollard's wedding which under the capable hands of Captain Paul Ayriess was immensely successful. The wedding took place in the Camp Chapel with H/Capt. (now H/Major) Roy Durnford officiating. Roy Ayerst acted as best man while Dave Christiani gave the bride away. On leaving the church the bridal party passed through a guard of honour, supplied by the Mess, with crossed spee . . . I'm sorry, lances. In the background stood S.S.M. Taffy Deeming who wouldn't take any credit for training the guard of honour. After the reception at the Mess the bride and groom left for Black Bay to spend their honeymoon only to find that three kill-joys had arrived there first and had prepared their cabin (ha ha). They even went as far as tying pans to the bed. The trio proceeded to hold an old fashioned chivaree and even enlisted the help of three

willing fishermen who were beached because of bad weather.

Finally in closing we wish to welcome Cpl. Creagen of the newly-arrived 158 LAD and also those mentioned hereunder who were recently promoted to Lance Corporals: Frank Ainsworth, Red Cleveland, Dick Coleman, Gordie Comeau, Gord Cunningham, Ed Dzioha, J. Douglas, Mel Favreau, Gord Fitzpatrick, J. O. Forster,

Jack Gale, George Gould, Willie Holman, John Laplante, J. O. Marleau, John McGowan, G. L. Oram, E. A. Prendergast, T. C. Raeside, Donny Trudell, Mike Vandenbossche, Ron Wake, Bob Atlas, Les Lesperance, Joe Sinnott, T. L. Barber, J. M. Gray, W. L. Williams, G. A. Creelman, A. A. Cunliffe, G. L. Griffin, Frankie Mears and last but not least Tommy Williams.

Canteen Capers

By "MUDGUT"

An article entitled Canteen Capers would not be complete without focussing some attention on the canteen itself. This past year saw the Old Canteen take on a new colour scheme of light blue. Cpl. Camley took over midway through the year from Cpl. McNulty as Canteen N.C.O. A very deserving word of thanks goes to both these lads who have worked hard at giving improved canteen service to the Regiment. Trp. Barter, who has since left to practice his culinary talents as an army cook, was one of the mainstays of the canteen this past year. A new slate of canteen assistants has been evident with the enlargement of the canteen services. Tpr. Bryans and Tpr. Crombie have been doing their bit behind the bar. With the influx of the Special Force a new canteen was opened under the direction of Cpl. Camley and Lieut. Whitton. Tpr. "Mudgut" Johnson operated the Wets—and is doing an excellent job while the Dry is being run by Tpr. Mitchell and Tpr. Finch.

The new canteen stock would astound the "Old Sweat" who was usually pleased to have cigarettes, beer and cleaning material. Everything from Ronson lighters to sports shirts and windbreakers are available so that there are very few articles which the lads are not able to purchase right within the unit lines.

Royal Canadian Dragoons

This review of our happenings over the year begins with the closing of Summer

Camp last year, prior to the Regiment preparing for its fall Scheme, which was to last for a period of two weeks. After gathering up our correspondents' notes we will endeavour to bring you up to date on the past year.

It seems that during the Scheme last year there was a great argument between A and Gallant, B Sqn. took it hands down, while "Eagle Beak" Hickey claims if B Sqn. had returned some of the spare parts borrowed from A Sqn. Tech. Stores they might have had a fighting chance. After a brief discussion with "Bad Boy" Rose, he explained he was too interested in growing his new moustache to worry about who won the shoot.

Coakley's Taxi Service soon found out that Beaton's Transport was too big to argue with, and, Jerry to prove his point backed into poor "Coak's" hack. The only thing that Beaton didn't know was that "Coak's" passenger was the Adj.

"Gear Shift" Harnett seemed to have a special pit, but try as we did he wouldn't let us in on its location.

Exciting as the Scheme was the fellows were in for more excitement when the Scout hall caught fire. So efficient was Millberrys Bus Line, that his vehicles nearly beat the fire truck to the scene. Willie Potter exclaimed the following day, that "after the hectic race to the fire he was going to make an application to enter his $\frac{1}{4}$ in the next Indianapolis speed classic."

Everyone was having such a good time on the Scheme they were sorry to see it come to an end, although furloughs were promised for the near future. The Regiment still had one more obstacle to overcome, that being the inspection of the Area Commander. Spit, polish and paint was flying fast and Stan Barter, the canteen steward, claimed that there was a tremendous increase in sales. 100% of that increase was in the sale of No. 7 "IT" Cleaner.

The Flying Frenchman, Beaulieu, was trying desperately for a two week transfer to the R.C.R. as they were the only unit in camp that were not inspected.

So well did everyone pitch in and help clean up the camp that it has never been the same since.

The Regimental Dance slated for November had to be cancelled due to the fact the Armouries would not be ready in time, so the Regiment held a Smoker in its place. The Smoker itself was an unqualified success and after the initial section was completed, Lt. Col. G. J. H. Wattsford and R.S.M. Smith each gave an address to the Regiment. Also present was Lt. Col. P. R. Bingham, C.O. of the R.C.R., who made a short speech to the lads.

Now that November was upon us, "Furlough Fever" was in the air. Only the necessary personnel remained behind, while the majority took off to their homes. Around the Married Patch those that could dodge the apron strings tried their luck at hunting. Roy Cote seemed to have the only luck. Roy knocked off a small doe. We find out now that Roy walked over a hill and there sat four of them looking straight at him and in his excitement he shot the smallest one. Let's see if you can get the biggest one next year Roy. As usual all the married crocks were glad that their furloughs were over and some came back for another year's rest!

The Fourth Annual Dinner went over with a big bang as usual. This was the first that Lt. Col. G. J. H. Wattsford had attended as C.O. of the unit, also R.S.M. Smith. A very enjoyable supper was laid

out by our able-bodied "hash crew", under the fine management of Sgt. Ranger and assisted by Cpls. Schulte and Steel; Len Kerr and sawed off Beurellie managed to burn out two motors in the potato peeler machine! "Pat's" Henry, "Wally" Simpson, and "Pee Wee" Westgarth made short work of roasting the turkeys. After the dinner was over everyone retired to the Community Centre, where all proceeded to drink up the Golden Beverage supplied by Johnny Copeland and his canteen staff.

With the coming of the New Year many of the fellows were starting Regimental courses, giving everyone a recap of the fundamentals of the Regiment. "Roll Them Over" Bryans showed his instructor that he knew how to roll over a jeep, without any lessons, even though it wasn't on the syllabus. The only comment "Back Seat Driver" Camley had was that he didn't have to use my head as a stepping stone to climb out of the jeep.

The coming of May brought the Regimental Dance. Everyone was looking forward to it with great anticipation, only to have the Regiment stand to for relief work at Winnipeg. At 0400 hrs. Thursday the 12th 60 Wireless Operators embussed for Ottawa where they boarded planes to be flown west. Although their wives had been planning so much on the dance they were willing to accept the emergency and were glad that their husbands were able to help Winnipeg in its greatest need. Too much credit cannot be given to the 60 man group, who forgot the dance to which they had been looking forward, in order to help Canada's third largest city in its great emergency: also the comparatively small staff of cooks who stayed up all night to help prepare box lunches for the boys as well as prepare regular meals the next day and finally prepare the buffet lunch for the dance which was held the same day.

With the coming of June the Summer Camp once again rolled around and presented the task of training the Reserve Force. Once again the Regiment contributed many of its skilled men to help train

the Reserve Force. To some this was a new experience, to others it was routine. But new or old it never became boring. All ranks however were happy when the chore was done, as they were again looking forward to their fall scheme, which was to have come off. However with the outbreak of hostilities in Korea, it was to our sorrow that the scheme had to be called off, and once again take over the duties of instructors for the Special Service Force Brigade. However this didn't seem to bother very many as the Banana Boat docked and left quite a few promotions around.

This year we have no really interesting Office Cases on record so will have to skip our section of them this time. However we did notice that Johnson MK 2 was paraded for an interview to the C.O. and when asked by the C.O. his troubles he explained: "Sir, I go on parade to earn the money to pay for the food I eat, to give me strength, to go on parade, Sir." Col. Wattford replied: "Tpr. Johnson, I come to work, to earn the money, to pay for the food I eat, to give me strength, to listen to you interfere: I think we both have a point!"

R.C.D. OPEN NEW COFFEE BAR

The old coffee bar in Bessborough Hall is a thing of the past. The first of September saw the opening of the new coffee bar in the old location. The men of the Regiment have long since required a snack bar which would meet all the requirements of a "quick lunch counter".

The bar serves a good variety of hot foods including a grill menu, sandwiches, cakes and pies, hamburgers, milk shakes, coffee, milk, cokes, etc. It accommodates the lads who are living out but do not go home for lunch as well as those who "might be bringing up the rear" and miss dinner in the men's mess. In addition, it provides a snack bar for the occupants of Bessborough Hall.

The equipment installed is all of the latest design with a predominance of stain-



"Chef" Lafantasia

less steel giving a very clean and tidy look to the bar.

The bar itself was finished by our own unit carpenter Tpr. Elsby, who did an exceptionally fine job on the cupboards and counter, all finished in green arborite with chrome trim, and the front of the bar is panelled with squares of grained plywood giving a very effective finish. Capt. P. W. Ayriss was largely responsible for obtaining equipment and having the new coffee shop set up and his efforts are very much appreciated.

For people who are always getting into trouble by talking at the wrong time it might be well for them to remember "that even a fish wouldn't get into trouble if he kept his mouth closed!"

An American Senior Officer taking his staff course in India visited the local maharajah, bringing some gifts which were unobtainable in that part of the world. The grateful potentate wanted to reciprocate and after much pleading he finally had the officer suggest "Oh well if you happen to be in England some time, you might pick me up a few good golf clubs".

Later the maharajah reported "I have bought you two golf clubs. Both have eighteen holes and one even has a swimming pool but I have a disappointment . . . St. Andrews refuses to sell".

Training

This has been a year that has seen the Regiment taking part in many varied types of training. Throughout *The Springbok* you will note the Regiment has not only carried out various phases of armoured training but performed special tasks. We have taken a few excerpts from the training records and have incorporated them in this special section.

R.C.D. Assists in Training Canadian Army Special Force

When the Canadian Army Special Force came into being it was stated that the Active Force was to be held intact and would not be committed in the Korean war. However this did not prevent the personnel of the Royal Canadian Dragoons from becoming an integral part of the training cadre of the 25 Canadian Re-enforcement Stream.

The Canadian Re-enforcement Stream, or C.R.S. as it has become known, became a working reality largely due to the efforts of Lt.-Col. G. J. H. Wattsford, Commanding Officer of the Royal Canadian Dragoons, and his few officers and NCOs that he could make available. Colonel Wattsford was placed in charge of the stream, which sprang from a non-existent body, to one of over 2100 men, practically overnight. This rapid growth brought tremendous administrative difficulties which had to be dealt with by the undersized staff. The problems were further enlarged by the rail strike, which tied up the much needed supplies of clothing and necessities for a number of days.

The R.C.A.S.C. certainly deserve our thanks and due to their conscientious ef-

The Royal Canadian Dragoons lead the church parade in Ottawa that was held in conjunction with the commemorative services for the units of the Special Force.



forts in trucking in high priority supplies, the situation was relieved considerably.

When Colonel Wattsford held his first conference, his command consisted of one unfurnished HQ building, 5 R.C.D. officers, 6 A. and T. officers, a small number of NCOs and approximately 3000 unequipped troops. It was rumoured earlier that one of the offices contained a last year's calendar but this was proven false! In a fashion peculiar to the Army however things slowly began to function. Chairs, tables, files, "make do forms" and stationery were borrowed or stolen in order to get things rolling as quickly as possible. The staff went on a twelve hour day, seven day week, all except the Q.M., and they went on a twenty-four hour day. It was somewhat ironical when we thought of the rail strikes agitating for a forty hour week.

With the arrival of a few more officers and a larger number of newly appointed R.C.D. L/Corporals, together with the settling of the rail strike, things began to become a little clearer. Drafts for P.P.C.L.I., R.C.E., R22R., R.C.A., etc., which had been diverted to Petawawa because of the rail tie-up were sent on their way, helping to make life just a little easier.

The canteen under the direction of Lt. "Sandy" Whitton and Cpl. Camley got underway with a totally R.C.D. staff. We might divert to emphasize the terrific volume of business done in the wet canteen, namely 500 cases in the first twelve hours of operation. A barber shop was set up and two barbers were found among the recruits. Needless to say they did a roaring business!

The whole programme has been heavy on the Regiment, and the instructional staff as well as the training cadre, have worked very hard to make the Re-enforcement Stream an efficient body. The Regiment although not so completely conversant with infantry training as with their own arm, have been doing a fine job with the Stream. All personnel who have been engaged in the training and administration of

this special force element are to be highly congratulated for their efforts.

It should also be mentioned that a good proportion of the armoured squadron which is training at Meaford (CASF) is composed of R.C.D. personnel. The squadron is commanded by Major J. W. Quinn, with Capt. V. W. Jewkes, M.C., 2 i/c and Capt. K. C. Kennedy as battle captain. Along with other personnel of the Regiment went Lieut. L. Stone who will be one of the troop leaders.

The Regiment wishes them all the very best of luck and good fortune in their new jobs.

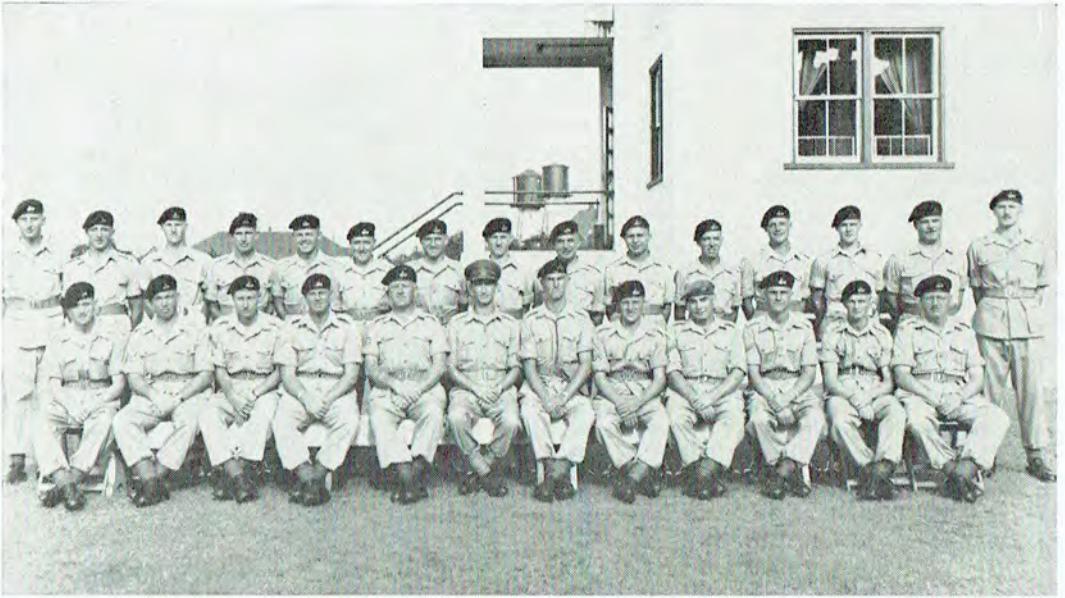
R.C.D. Trade Tanks for Skiis

The Royal Canadian Dragoons this year swapped their tanks for skiis to partake of the Command Winter School course held here at Petawawa. The previous courses, made up mostly of Reserve Force personnel, had only a limited amount of success due to lack of sufficient snow. However with the first week in February came abundant snow so that the personnel from the Regiment were able to derive the full benefit from the training under very realistic conditions.

Officers and men from all squadrons of the Regiment began the course on the 7th of February. There were more than 50 all ranks on the course which was intended to give the tankers insight into the difficulties of winter warfare.

The training was carried out mostly under instruction of officers and NCOs of the R.C.R. The course itself consisted of the usual lectures, films, etc., with a large portion of the training being devoted to practical work. The practical phase consisted of a number of trips into the bush of up to a weeks' duration.

The course was by no means all work and no play, with liberal amounts of winter sports thrown in. There were classes provided for skiing, snowshoeing and tobogganing, with ski joring behind a jeep being one of the most popular pastimes.



Front row, left to right: L/Cpl. Raeside, L/Cpl. Taylor, L/Cpl. Grabowski, L/Cpl. Curley, S.S.M. Haskett, Capt. Spencer, Sgt. Thomson, L/Cpl. Denomme, Cpl. Stuppiello (RCASC), L/Cpl. Hood, L/Cpl. Cleveland, L/Cpl. Fitzpatrick.

Back row, left to right: L/Cpl. Dzioba, Tpr. Wood, L/Cpl. Coleman, L/Cpl. Holman, L/Cpl. Ainsworth, L/Cpl. Forster, L/Cpl. Prendergast, L/Cpl. Laplante, L/Cpl. Mears, L/Cpl. Favreau, L/Cpl. McGowan, L/Cpl. Griffin, L/Cpl. Oram, L/Cpl. Wake, L/Cpl. Douglas.

Courses

Courses were conducted throughout the year in Wireless, D & M, Gunnery and Tactics. These training courses initiated the recruits into the "world of the tank" and also provided a "recap" for the trained soldiers.

An intensive programme of Senior and Junior NCO qualifying courses was also carried out and several Dragoons blossomed out in new stripes as a result of successfully completing their courses.

R.C.D. Lieutenants Attend Royal Military College

This summer the common-to-all arms course held at the Royal Military College, drained the regiment of the majority of junior officers.

The course was designed to broaden the knowledge of newly appointed junior officers and to familiarize them with the

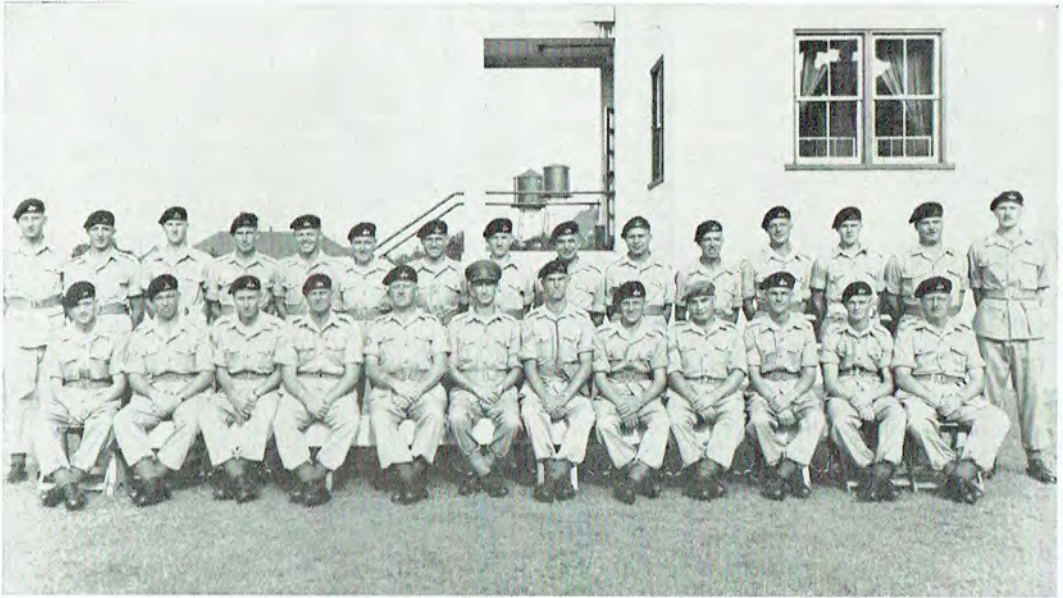
problems and working machinery of corps, other than the Royal Canadian Armoured Corps.

Included in the summer curriculum were subjects such as man management, organization, and employment of all corps, administration, principles of instruction, and tactics. Great stress was also placed on physical training and organized sports.

A number of guest speakers were included in the course, including corps directors of all corps.

At the end of the course a full dress graduation parade was held at which Lt. Gen. C. Foulkes, C.G.S., took the salute. General Foulkes also delivered the last lecture of the course to the graduates.

Officers of the regiment attending the course were Lt. Whitton, Lt. Gaskin, Lt. Wright, Lt. Leonard, Lt. Flay, Lt. Weisman, Lt. Kisielius, Lt. Bell, and Lt. Robertson.



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SPORTS

The old idea of "into bed or out of barracks" on a Wednesday afternoon is now a thing of the past. Now the whole Regiment goes in for sports in true Olympic style.

On a sports afternoon two squadrons are matched in volleyball, softball and horseshoes. Meanwhile the remaining squadron gets the use of the camp sports field to indulge in "Tabloid Sports". This means a lively afternoon for all ranks. The squadron is divided into a number of teams of equal numbers and as nearly as possible equal prowess in the various events. The events which take place are:—100 yd. dash, running broad jump, standing broad jump, high jump, baseball throw, shot putt, discus, and hammer throw. Scores are kept for each team on the separate events and so a winning team for the afternoon is decided.

These tabloid sports also give the squadron officials a chance to get a line on suitable material for the Regimental Track and Field teams. As all ranks take part a considerable number of "dark horses" are discovered, who might otherwise never have been brought to light.

On 23 August a very successful Regimental Sports Day was held on the camp sports ground. A week later the camp sports meet was held and proved to be a very exciting day.

Apart from track and field events, softball, hockey and bowling all have their enthusiastic followers. The playing schedules for these games are very heavy as there are not only the inter-squadron games to be played but also the inter-camp games. So this means many a busy evening for the man who is playing hockey for his squadron and also in the bowling league at the same time.

R.C.D. HOLD 2ND ANNUAL TRACK MEET

Starting at 1000 hours on Wednesday, 23rd August, 1950, the Royal Canadian Dragoons held their 2nd annual track and field meet. It was a huge success with all taking part agreeing that it was up to the standard that the regiment normally puts on.

Right on the minute the events were on

their way being judged by Maj. F. S. Corbeau, Maj. C. I. Speedie, 2/Lt. S. W. Lightzer, W.O. II R. W. A. Wilkie and W.O. II R. W. Deeming, D.C.M. The field event judges were Maj. G. Pratt, Capt. V. J. Ferguson, Sgt. R. Buttle, W.O. Croft.

In the track events Lt. Kisielius, L/Cpl. Crawford and Tpr. Lesperance and Tpr. Van Valkenburg were the top men and in the field events Lts. Bell and Leonard were outstanding.

No doubt the best event of the afternoon was the 440 yard soldiers relay. Squadron teams consisted of 1 Trooper, 1 L/Cpl., 1 Sgt. and 1 Officer each running 110 yards. It was a ding dong effort between A and B and even at the end people watching, some 300, were in doubt as to who had actually won. The final verdict was B Squadron by less than a yard, the applause that went up from that Squadron was well earned by Tpr. Lesperance, L/Cpl. Crawford, Sgt. Harte and Capt. Spencer. A most deserving word should go to Sgt. Harte who came back from a five day scheme to do his "bit" for the squadron.

Another event worthy of praise by all was the tug-of-war. It was a hard-fought battle in the morning with H.Q. pulling against A Squadron. In the afternoon



Competitors in 2nd Annual Track Meet



Maj.-Gen. Vokes, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., judged the final between A and B Squadrons. Both sides at the time were going neck and neck for points and while B were slightly in the lead A had no intentions of quitting. They just dug in and on the word of W.O. II Deeming, D.C.M., heaved B over the line. Back came B in the second pull and gave A the gears in no uncertain manner. The final pull was a pleasure to watch but terrific effort on those taking part, it was finally won by "A" Squadron giving them a win of two pulls to one.

For the individual prizes Lt. Kisielius became the first officer in the history of the regiment to hold the cup for the best athlete. He totalled 19 points beating his nearest rival L/Cpl. Crawford by 3 points.

At the prize giving by Mrs. Vokes, the winning competitors were congratulated on their efforts. Capt. Spencer again received the Ardagh Trophy for the best squadron results, having this year a total of 78 points followed by A Squadron with 71 points, and HQ squadron with 25 points.

Baker Squadron may justly be proud of their win.

Refreshments of both solid and liquid nature were served to the competitors in the Corporals' Lounge.

The Commanding Officer of the Royal Canadian Dragoons, Lt.-Col. G. J. H. Wattsford, congratulated all concerned on their efforts and from those taking part in the events, to the children who consumed gallons of free ice cream, all agreed that it had been a wonderful day. Indeed one youngster firmly clutching two free ice creams in his hand was heard to say to his admiring parent: "Daddy let's have a show like this every day".

The following is a list of events, contestants and winners, etc.:—

The march past and some action scenes from the 2nd Annual Track Meet.

EVENT		NAME	HQ.	Squadron		TIME, etc.
				A	B	
100 yd. Dash.....	1	Lt. Kisielius.....		5		
	2	L/Cpl. Crawford.....			3	
	3	L/Cpl. Price.....		1		10.5
Shot Putt.....	1	Lt. Kisielius.....		5		
	2	Lt. Leonard.....			3	
	3	Tpr. Wake.....			1	32 ft. 11"
Javelin.....	1	L/Cpl. Crawford.....			5	
	2	Tpr. Barber.....			3	
	3	Tpr. Tinklin.....		1		149' 7"
880 Yd. Run.....	1	L/Cpl. Cyr.....	5			
	2	Tpr. Pike.....			3	
	3	Tpr. Crabie.....			1	2.22/6
Pole Vault.....	1	Tpr. Comeau.....			5	9'
	2	Tpr. Lesperance.....			3	9'
	3	Tpr. Oram.....		1		8' 10"
1 Mile Relay.....	1	B Sqn. Team.....			5	
	2	A Sqn. Team.....		3		
	3	H.Q. Sqn. Team.....	Scratched			4.4. 4/10
220 Yd. Dash.....	1	Lt. Kisielius.....		5		
	2	L/Cpl. Crawford.....			3	
	3	Tpr. Lesperance.....			1	23.7
Hammer.....	1	Lt. Bell.....	5			
	2	Lt. Leonard.....			3	
	3	Sgt. Prettie.....		1		74.10
Running Broad.....	1	L/Cpl. Price.....		5		
Jump.....	2	L/Cpl. Crawford.....			3	
	3	Lt. Kisielius.....		1		18' 10"
One Mile Run.....	1	L/Cpl. Cyr.....	5			
	2	Tpr. Van Valkenburg.....		3		
	3	Tpr. Pike.....			1	5.50 mins.
440 yd. Soldier Relay.....	1	"B" Sqn. Team.....			5	
	2	"A" Sqn. Team.....		3		
	3	"H.Q." Sqn. Team.....	1			52.2 secs.
Softball Throw.....	1	Tpr. Barber.....			5	
	2	Tpr. Hill.....	3			
	3	Tpr. Tinklin.....		1		290 ft.
Hop, Step and Jump.....	1	L/Cpl. Price.....		5		
	2	Tpr. Comeau.....			3	
	3	Tpr. Atlas.....		1		36 ft.
440 Yd. Run.....	1	Tpr. Lesperance.....			5	
	2	Lt. Wheeler.....			3	
	3	Tpr. McMillan.....	1			57 secs.
Discus Throw.....	1	Lt. Bell.....	5			
	2	Lt. Kisielius.....		3		
	3	Lt. Leonard.....			1	101 ft.
High Jump.....	1	Tpr. Comeau.....			5	
	2	Lt. Weisman.....		3		
	3	Tpr. Burke.....			1	4' 10"
440 Yd. Relay.....	1	"A" Sqn. Team.....		5		
	2	"B" Sqn. Team.....			3	
	3	"HQ" Sqn. Team.....		1		51.5 Secs.
Standing Broad.....	1	Lt. Weisman.....		5		
Jump.....	2	Tpr. Atlas.....		3		
	3	L/Cpl. Crawford.....			1	8' 9"
3 Mile Run.....	1	Tpr. Van Valkenburg.....		5		
	2	Tpr. Pike.....			3	20 mins.
	3	Tpr. De Voought.....		1		22 Secs.
Tug of War.....		"A" Sqn. Team.....				
Total Points.....			25	71	78	

CURLING

Balmorals were in evidence as curling was reintroduced at Petawawa.

The Scottish heather flourished this past winter in the form of the new curling association which was under the direction

of Major F. S. Corbeau.

The curling rink, which is one of the best natural ice rinks in this area, was put into condition by a number of people interested in having a club at Petawawa. After two weeks of very cold weather the

ice was in good condition and two games nightly, on all four sheets were planned. However, the lack of curling stones held up matters for some time. After a few inquiries we were able to borrow the required number of irons from the Pembroke club, and the league consisting of twenty-four teams got underway.

During the season a few of the rinks from Pembroke entertained a number of the curlers from the Regiment. These games were accompanied by a return engagement at Petawawa.

All in all a very successful season was had and it is hoped to get the league underway earlier next year and if at all possible to hold an annual bonspiel here in the camp.

HOCKEY

Petawawa Military Camp established an inter unit hockey schedule after a meeting of the various unit sports officers with Major Lewis, R.C.E.M.E., camp sports officer. The league was originally to consist of eight teams but unfortunately due to lack of equipment and personnel, the Services entry had to be withdrawn.

On the 23rd of January the first game of the new schedule got underway between H.Q. Sqn. (R.C.D.) vs the combined team of C & D Coys. (R.C.R.). The result of this hard fought game was a tie, with each team scoring 7 goals during the three periods of play. The first game was a sample of the kind of good hockey to be seen throughout the whole season.

The seven team league was composed of 3 teams from the R.C.R., 1 team from R.C.E.M.E. and 3 teams from the R.C.D. As the league schedule progressed the brand of hockey was of excellent calibre being clean and hard fought all the way.

A few words should be said to those personnel who by their efforts enabled the league to keep going and contributed largely to its success. S.S.M. Haskett and L/Cpl. Curley did a fine job in keeping the ice in good condition and ensuring that the paint-

ing of the ice was carried out. To the referees goes a special word of thanks, (Bert Lake and "Cliff" Carpenter), in the handling of their thankless task very efficiently; Lt. "Cy" Gaskin also contributed in no small way by keeping the equipment in usable condition. All personnel of the squadron are to be thanked for their support in sweeping the ice, supplying coffee, blankets, etc. It was one of those Regimental activities which had a place for everyone and so we say many thanks to all.

"B" SQUADRON WINS WALKER BELL TROPHY

"B" Squadron, R.C.D., won the Walker Bell Trophy, emblematic of Regimental hockey supremacy last March at the R.C.D. rink with a 5-0 win over "HQ" Squadron after having beaten "A" Squadron in the semi-final by the score of 8-3.

Williams, burly defence man of "B", was the first to score on a nice pass from Barber, to make the score read 1-0 at the end of the first period. Barber received the only penalty of the stanza for high sticking.

"B" had things all their way in the second period as Vant, Moldovan, Williams and Barber scored to make the count read 5-0.



Back row: WO II Haskett, manager and coach, Tpr. Cote, Tpr. Murphy, Tpr. Campbell, Lt. Robertson, L/Cpl. Williams, Tpr. Emon, Capt. Spencer, O.C. "B" Squadron.

Front row: Tpr. Vant, Tpr. Barber, Tpr. Forster, Tpr. Gallant, Tpr. Moldovan.

Absent: Lt. Gaskin, L/Cpl. Curley.

Rafuse played well in the nets for "HQ" but there was no stopping "B's" two big lines as they roamed at will around his net. The Carpenter, Camley, Campbell line tried hard to score on Forster but there was a stone wall in front of him and any that did get through met with a goaler who was out for his third shutout. Rafuse played a much better game than the score would imply, but his defence did not afford him much assistance. Cpl. "Cliff" Carpenter of the losers played 60 min. With a few more players like him the score might easily have been different. He was a display of endurance all season.

The pressure eased up in the last period and the game ended 5-0 in favour of "B" Squadron.

After the final game "B" Squadron was presented with the Walker Bell Trophy, which is now for inter-squadron competition instead of the pre-war inter-troop scraps. Major Speedie, the 2 i/c of the Royal Canadian Dragoons, complimented the teams on their fine showing and hoped all the players would be around for the Cup again next year. The "B" boys had a little celebration after the game with "HQ" Squadron also attending. Lt. Willis, manager of the "HQ" team, congratulated "B's" team and their coach, S.S.M. "Flash" Haskett, on their fine team spirit. A toast was also given to Vant, the tramp, who helped "B's" team in no small way on his posting to "HQ" in Ottawa. The tramp will be hard to replace.

Hats off to S.S.M. "Flash" Haskett and his husky crew for their successful season.

"B" Sqn.—Goaler, Forster; defence, Williams and Robertson; forwards, Vant, Barber and Moldovan; alternates, Cote, Gallant, Emon and Campbell.

"HQ" Sqn.—Goaler, Rafuse; defence, Robilliard and Raymond; forwards, Campbell, Carpenter and Camley; alternates, Mazerall, Ayotte and Jones.

Referees—Sgt. Wright and Cpl. Jones (R.C.R.).

FIRST PERIOD

1—"B"—Williams (Barber)

SECOND PERIOD

2—"B"—Vant (Moldovan, Barber)

3—"B"—Moldovan (Vant, Barber)

4—"B"—Williams (Vant, Moldovan)

5—"B"—Barber (Vant, Robertson)

Penalties—Campbell (2), Williams, Carpenter.

THIRD PERIOD

No score.

Penalties—Campbell, Carpenter, Moldovan.

First Game—"B" Sqn. 8; "A" Sqn. 3

"A" Sqn.—Goal, Cleveland; defence, Meeker and Mills; forwards, Price, Charland and Atlas; alternates, Favreau, Raets and Boissoneault.

"B" Sqn.—Goal, Forster; defence, Williams and Robertson; forwards, Vant, Barber and Moldovan; alternates, Cote, Gallant, Emon, Campbell and McLean.

Referees—Lt. Lake and Carpenter.

FIRST PERIOD

1—"B"—Barber (Moldovan, Vant)

SECOND PERIOD

2—"B"—Robertson

3—"B"—Emon (Cote, Gallant)

4—"B"—Vant (Moldovan, Barber)

Penalties—Price, Williams, Moldovan.

THIRD PERIOD

5—"B"—Barber (Williams)

6—"A"—Price (Atlas)

7—"A"—Charland

8—"B"—Barber (Moldovan, Vant)

9—"B"—Vant (Barber)

10—"A"—Charland (Atlas, Price)

11—"B"—Vant (Barber, Moldovan)

R.C.D. WIN CAMP SPORTS MEET

Win Twelve Events to Take

Camp Sports Championship

Score of 87 to 34

Wednesday, the 30th of August, was indeed a field day for the R.C.D. In the Petawawa Camp Sports Meet they swept the field in twelve out of fifteen events and working on a point system inflicted a defeat of 87 points to 34 on their sporting rivals, the R.C.R.

The conditions for the day were admirable and a crowd of 1500 saw some hard contested events.

The Sports Meet was officially under way at 1330 hours with a march past of athletes led by the R.C.D. band, followed by the competitors. First came the R.C.D. team resplendent in white with regimental crests and colours in their shorts. Next came the R.C.R. and a fine showing they put on.

The two officers commanding, Lt.-Col. G. J. H. Wattsford and Lt.-Col. P. R. Bingham, acted as chief judges and under the starting gun of O/C Riley Watson the events got under way.

In the track events the R.C.D. immediately went into the lead. Lt. Kisielius flying home in his well known form to win the 100 yard dash and 220 yard dash.

Maj. S. A. Nicol, Capts. LaFluer, Mullins and Lt. Casselman were hard put for a time as field judges as the events were most closely contested. With the results that they turned in plus the results turned in by W.O. II Webb and S/Sgt. Elliott as track judges it became obvious that the R.C.D. was all set to win.

L/Cpl. Cyr of HQ Squadron, R.C.D. did well in the 880 and 440 yard and to help his regiment home in the mile relay. It was a pleasure to watch him run with long apparently effortless strides and in the 880 he brought the crowd to their feet after just nosing out Pte. Clegg of the R.C.R. at the tape.

A lot of the credit for the final score of the meet must go to S.S.M. "Flash" Haskett of the R.C.D. Himself a fine athlete in the pre-war years he has nursed the team through trials and tribulations, and it was with pride that the regiment saw him take the cup for the winning team. While the team as individuals were good, they would not have fared half so well as individuals, if it had not been for "Flash" Haskett's guiding hand and controlling influence.

Other individuals worthy of special mention were L/Cpl. Crawford, who won the Javelin, was in the winning team of the 440 relay and was second in the 100 and 220 yard and the running broad jump.

While being only second in some events he gained valuable points and his sportsmanship was of an exemplary nature.

The two relay teams of the R.C.D. were well up to form. In the 440 yard relay Capt. Spencer, Lt. Kisielius, L/Cpl. Prince and L/Cpl. Crawford did well to cover the distance in the very fast time of 48.5/10 seconds.

In the 1 mile relay the R.C.D. team went into the lead after the second lap and the distance increased all the way. They finished in the time of 4 mins. and 4 seconds, another very good effort by Lt. Wheeler, L/Cpls. Lesperance, Cyr, and Pte. Pike.

In every sports meet the event which all people watch with interest is the tug-of-war. While the R.C.D. team may have swept the field with every other event in this one they were well and truly swept off their feet. Normally a tug-of-war is for the best two pulls out of three. In no uncertain manner the R.C.R. pulled the R.C.D. for only two pulls and that was all that was needed. The R.C.D. were pulled right off their feet virtually. Maj.-Gen. "Chris" Vokes certainly had his job made easy for him as the issue was never in doubt.

When the events for the day were over and the points totalled up Lt. Kisielius of the R.C.D. had the highest aggregate with 18 points. Again he received the award from Maj-Gen. Vokes as he had done from the R.C.D. track meet one week previously. His runner-up was again L/Cpl. Crawford.

The procession of R.C.D. event winners grew longer and they took more than the lion's share of the prize money. However that did not stop the R.C.R. Commanding Officer Lt.-Col. P. R. Bingham from leading his team in three cheers for the R.C.D. team and for the losers Capt. C. Spencer responded with cheers from the R.C.D.

So the meet came to an end. The competitors all gathered for supper at the close of the day and went home with stomachs full of good food and fistfulls of prizes. The spectators went home convinced that they had seen an excellent display of skill

and sportsmanship, and no doubt the steps of those who had the R.C.D. interests at heart had a much jauntier walk.

The following is a list of events and winners, etc.:—

100 yard dash—1, Lt. Kisielius (R.C.D.); 2, L/Cpl. Crawford (R.C.D.); 3, Sgt. MacNabb (R.C.R.)

High Jump—1, Lt. Hardy (R.C.R.); 2, Pte. Brown (R.C.R.); 3, L/Cpl. Comeau (R.C.D.)

Shot Putt—1, Lt. Kisielius (R.C.D.); 2, Pte. David (R.C.R.); 3, Lt. Leonard (R.C.D.)

220 Dash—1, Lt. Kisielius (R.C.D.); 2, L/Cpl. Crawford (R.C.D.); 3, L/Cpl. McNiff (R.C.R.)

440 yard run—1, L/Cpl. Cyr (R.C.D.); 2, L/Cpl. Lesperance (R.C.D.); 3, Pte. Taylor (R.C.R.)

440 Relay—1, R.C.D. team, Capt. Spencer, Lt. Kisielius, L/Cpl. Crawford, L/Cpl. Price.

Javelin—L/Cpl. Crawford (R.C.D.); 2, L/Cpl. Barber (R.C.D.)

Running Broad—1, L/Cpl. Price (R.C.D.); 2, L/Cpl. Crawford (R.C.D.)

880 yard run—1, L/Cpl. Cyr (R.C.D.); 2, Pte. Clegg (R.C.R.); 3, Tpr. Pike (R.C.D.)

Pole Vault—1, Pte. Hayward (R.C.R.); 2, L/Cpl. Comeau (R.C.D.); 3, Tpr. McMullen (R.C.D.)

Discus—1, Lt. Bell (R.C.D.); 2, Cpl. O'Neil (R.C.R.); 3, Capt. Fairweather (R.C.R.)

1 mile—1, Tpr. De Vought (R.C.D.); 2, Tpr. Van Valkenburg (R.C.D.); 3, Pte. Clegg (R.C.R.)

Tug-of-war—1, R.C.R. team.

1 mile relay—1, R.C.D. team, Lt. Wheeler, L/Cpl. Lesperance, L/Cpl. Cyr, Tpr. Pike.

Hop, step and jump—1, L/Cpl. Price (R.C.D.); 2, L/Cpl. Comeau (R.C.D.)

ADDRESSES OF R.C.D. VETERANS

The present serving members of the Regiment are anxious to maintain contact with all former members of the Unit, in order that all veterans are "kept in the picture".

As the records here do not include the addresses of all R.C.D. veterans, it is requested that if you know the addresses of any of your old pals and buddies, please send a note to *The Springbok*.

Also it is appropriate at this time to remind you to notify *The Springbok* of change of addresses.

REGIMENTAL SMOKER

The Regimental smoker, held this year in the community centre at Petawawa, was a very large success, and the committee under the direction of Capt. P. W. Ayriss did an excellent job of preparing a very entertaining evening.

The programme was written up in the form of an operational order . . . "R.C.D. will be DRINKING FORCE". The evening started off at 2000 hrs. with bingo under the direction of S.S.M. Haskett. Many prizes were presented but the lucky ones seemed to be part of the "Churchill Force" and from the firing party which had put on such a good show previously at the Deep River remembrance service. The most lucky person was Tpr. Templeton who scored twice during the evening for prizes.

After the opening entertainment was completed the Commanding Officer, Lt. Col. G. J. H. Wattsford and R.S.M. Smith each made a short address to the Regiment. Also present was Lt. Col. P. R. Bingham, Commanding Officer of the R.C.R., who remarked that "he hoped the same co-operative spirit between our two units which was in evidence at St. Jean, Que., prior to the war, would continue now that the R.C.D. and R.C.R. are again stationed together.

The next move was a skit put on by some of the junior officers. The skit lampooned the present day type of commercialized radio. Their sponsor was "Carters Garters", the garter that will positively not snap up and catch you un(der) aware.

After the skit a little vaudeville was had as individual talent took the stage. The evening's entertainment was capped by refreshments before the lads trodded home.

Needless to say the "R.C.D. DRINKING" intention was realized in full with the enemy being seized and completely demolished.

Glasses have a profound effect on a person's vision . . . especially when they have been filled and emptied many times.

AROUND CAMP

R.C.D. WOMEN'S AUXILIARY

This year's edition of the *Springbok* would not be complete without mention of the newly formed Royal Canadian Dragoons, women's auxiliary. A general meeting of the wives of R.C.D. personnel was held in the Sergeants' Mess on the 8th December, 1949, for the purpose of explaining to the ladies the role and operation of the R.C.D. auxiliary, and to elect a governing committee.

Lt. Col. Wattsford acted as chairman and explained in detail the organization and function of the auxiliary in relation to the unit and camp projects which would require assistance from the ladies. He emphasized that the welfare of the unit personnel and their dependence would be the main tasks the members would have to contend with and that the major portions of the finances would be expended towards this course. Any money raised by the auxiliary would automatically become their sole property and spent in a manner as noted by the committee members. Colonel Wattsford also explained how the auxiliary would function when a camp project became a priority and pointed out the extreme requirements for these organizations in our present camp life. Due to the rapid increase of dependence moving to this camp, an organization capable of lending assistance to the welfare of unit members and their families is now of paramount importance.

A nomination of officers took place and the following ladies were elected: President, Mrs. F. S. Corbeau; Vice-President, Mrs. J. E. Croft; Treasurer, Mrs. C. W. Smith; Secretary, Mrs. J. E. Armstrong.

One of the first projects undertaken by the auxiliary was that of assisting with the children's Christmas party. Their assistance was invaluable in helping to make the children's afternoon a big success.

A number of the projects were held early in the year such as the baking sale

held March 3rd for the purpose of raising funds to be used for auxiliary work. A contribution of twenty-five dollars was also voted for purchase of socks to be sent to the Winnipeg flood area.

The biggest auxiliary project of the year was a dance and fashion show held in the community centre on March 23rd. The residents of Petawawa Military Camp were entertained royally at the dance and cabaret which featured a very fine fashion display. During the evening dancing was enjoyed to the music of a camp orchestra and the tables were very tastefully arranged in cabaret style.

The models were girls from Petawawa Camp and Pembroke, with Miss Margarite Miller of Pembroke commenting on the fashions. Lieut. Robertson acted as M.C. and thanked the participants and the ladies of the R.C.D. auxiliary for their very fine programme.

ROYAL CANADIAN DRAGOONS CHILDRENS' CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Royal Canadian Dragoons held their annual Christmas Tree Party for all the children of the Regiment on Tuesday, 20 Dec., 1949, and to say the least, was a success from the word go. The party was held in the Sgts.' Mess and the kiddies were treated to a riot of colour as they entered. Each child was given a bag of candy, fruit, and horn. The noise that came from the Mess was something to behold with every kiddy trying to get in the act. The programme began with carol singing accompanied by the R.C.R. Band and under the direction of Sgt. Major Haskett.

The next item on the programme was film shorts and Cpl. J. Copeland had the kiddies laughing for 30 minutes with his variety of SNAFU's. On completion of the films, word was received that Santa Claus was outside in a jeep. The reception old St. Nick received must have made Sgt.

(Continued on page 67)

HERE

'N'

THERE



A very seedy looking individual stopped us downtown one day, and grasping our coat lapel, he said "Why don't you join the Active Army, Bub?". We looked him over carefully before replying, noting his rather soiled First War Ribbons and frayed trouser cuffs. "Our name is not Bub" we said, "and why should we join the Active Army?" He looked furtively over his shoulder and satisfied, whispered "where can we talk?" A few minutes later, over two beers, paid for by us, he enlarged "Well, Bub, it's like this. Join the Active Army and you get well paid. Furthermore, the Government clothes you and gives you a nice house. When you are ailing,

they look after you, and finally, when a war does break out, the Government enlists another army to do the fighting for you". We doubt whether any members of the Active Force will laugh at this rather corny joke, but as we think back to those pre-war years when annually, an individual by the name of Fuddge would raise up in the House and offer "One buck for National Defence", we think how times had changed and wondered whether in our time we will ever see a peaceful world again. Somehow, when we recall certain Italian and German people we met and were friends with during the 2nd World War, we are prone to believe that ordinary people the world over, do not want war, which leads us to wonder what is happening to our Governments that we supposedly elect? Is it that we must continue to be war conscious and spend our wealth and manhood on defence only because it is good business? In former times when a war was fought to a successful conclusion, the victors invariably had some benefits to show for their efforts. Now however the winning side really loses since the years following a victory bring only additional hardship and sacrifice to the victors. We feel that there must be another and better reason for living and that mobilization of industry instead of manpower as a first move would at least be a good start. Take the profit out of war and we feel there will be less war talk.

All of which is neither here nor there and probably doesn't belong in either.

It does not seem a year since we wrote for this column and since that time we have visited our old friend Bev Hook, the man responsible for our very attractive column head. Why we mention him so early in this column is because Bev has gone a long way toward solving the high price of meat without adopting vegetarianism. He keeps one or two pigs and a calf on his property north of Toronto and when they reach a certain age or weight, we forget which, they are removed from his sight and changed into pork chops, cutlets,

hams and bacon and are deposited in a nearby freezer where they become money in the bank until consumed. Write a cheque for a pork tenderloin Bev and send it to the Editor in lieu of several years subs. He claims the overall cost of his winter meat to be around twenty-five cents a pound.

We did our usual chore at the National Horse Show during the Ex and for eight nights saw vast numbers of horses from the rear, and quite a lot of people from the same angle. Although minus such show members of our trusted crew as Jake Lord, Frank Waddington and Bill Hare, we nonetheless managed very well with Walter Sibley and a couple of imports from Oakville. True, we admit to a few moments of alarm on the opening night when we discovered a Provost Sergeant at our desk, and during which we made a hasty review of our army days trying to recall some slip or unsolved crime, but as it developed that he was one of our two imports, our worry went for nil. So to George and Keith, we say many thanks for some nice co-operation. The Horse Show was a successful one alright, and the manner in which Connolly Carribinieri threw the jumps around reminded us of the old days when we used to sling them in without any tractors and at the double.

Among our correspondence we find a letter from Jake the Barber. As he is now in Washington, D.C., hobnobbing with the hoi poloi of the Canadian Embassy, we were surprised to discover that most of it was in Italian. However with the aid of the famous Jack and Bill of the war-time years, we managed to decipher the contents. It appears that Jake made a pilgrimage to Toronto to the Ex, intent on meeting some of the old horse show crowd only to discover on his arrival that he was a week too soon. Tough luck Jake, and come again next year at the right time.

The Old Comrades Picnic and Niagara Peninsula including Merriton Re-union was a grand affair this year and some 250 souls congregated in the area bounded on the

east by the Lakeview, the south by the Lake, the north by the Canadian Legion and the west by the Prince of Wales. While the tea consumed this year was but a modest 7 gallons as compared to the 21 of last year, the figures from these three places of joy were not available, but we did notice a convoy from Taylor and Bates in the early afternoon which would denote that all of the 1098 issue was gone quite early and that emergency rations were even then being broken into. Everyone did stop long enough however to take part in the very versatile programme arranged by the hard working Committee headed as usual by Smudger Smith but we fear that quite a number missed the early boat.

Another dance planned for October and if the last one is any criterion, this should not be missed. Tickets at the door, and a very posh place indeed, very 'igh standard. Come on out and be impressed, especially if it is your first. The place, War Amps Club, 24 Wellesley Street, Toronto, the date, Friday, October 27th, the fee, one buck. Shall we see you there?

Our correspondence has fallen off a lot since last issue, probably those of you who remember us as a "Q", have forgotten all your beefs about sore feet and misfits and figure there is nothing else to write about. In this you err, for you can always tell us about your friends and thus get them some free publicity. Let's have some letters before the next number.

OLD COMRADES

For the benefit of the many Old Comrades who may wish to communicate with R.Q.M.S. J. B. Harrison, his address is 15 Kelvin Avenue, Toronto, Ontario.

PHOTOGRAPHS

The Springbok wants to print lots of pictures—especially pictures of Old Comrades and past events. Can you send any pictures or negatives? We can copy them and return them immediately if you wish.

MUSINGS WITHOUT METHOD

England 1943	Italy 1944	N.W.E. 1945
Don't tell me we have to dig slit trenches?	Where's that pick and shovel?	These tools should be worth at least a hundred guilders.
Off to London on leave! I wonder what kind of girl I'll meet this time . . .	Off to Rome on leave! I wonder what kind of girl I'll meet this time . . .	Off to Paris on leave! If all reports are true . . .
Army cooking is terrible.	Army cooking is terrible.	Army cooking is terrible.
We troopers are badly underpaid. Now if I was a corporal . . .	We corporals are badly underpaid. Now if I was a sergeant . . .	We sergeants are badly underpaid. Now if I was a sergeant-major . . .
I write more letters than I receive.	I write more letters than I receive.	I write more letters than I receive.
This is a good billet. Only 45 minutes from London.	This is a good billet. The walls are all stone and three feet thick.	This is a good billet. The only building in town with a roof on it.
If I had ten pounds I'd take a week's leave.	If I had an extra pair of boots I'd take a week's leave.	If I had a carton of cigarettes I'd take a week's leave.
Shell—Traverse left—Steady—On—500—Men—Fire!	There they go! SHOOT!!	Don't fire. We'll take 'em prisoner.
This war will be over by the end of the year.	This war will probably go on 'til 1970.	Well! It's about time!

NEWS LETTER . . .

(Continued from page 17)

handling drafts of young National Servicemen from the UK, giving them instruction in the Training Squadron ("C" Sqn.) which then passes them to the other squadrons—A, B and HQ. We have had to carry out frequent "border patrols" as we are very near the Russian Zone and have, from time to time been engaged in anti-black market work, internal security and a variety of other jobs.

During our stay here A Sqn. has spent a year in Berlin as part of the garrison there. They were relieved last February and we were glad to have them back.

We move to the UK as a Regiment and are to be inspected by His Majesty the King on 5 December. In January we expect to leave for Melf and our first station there is to be Fayid, in the Canal Zone. Those who have been to "Wogland" before are not particularly looking forward to the move. Quarters for families are few and far between, civilian billets are expensive, the camp has few permanent buildings and there are too many flies. But there is good duck shooting, the "young-uns" are looking forward intensely to "nights in Cairo" and it probably won't be so bad after all.

OFFICERS' MESS . . .

(Continued from page 40)

Lt. Weisman and Lt. Robertson the show was enthusiastically received by a very generous audience (they laughed at anything). The "Valentine Revue" consisted of a "Rabbit and Buzzard" routine by Weisman and Robertson and also a very tantalizing "Can Can" line of Lt. Dubord, Lt. Rivers, Lt. Gaskin and Lt. Kisielius. Lt. "Bill" Willis very capably MC'd the proceedings and was assisted by Capt. Buckingham.

A kind thank you must be extended to all the ladies who contributed the costumes and clothing for the show.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY . . .

(Continued from page 63)

Major Deeming feel good inside! The next hour was taken up with Santa Claus giving out presents and no one went without.

During these proceedings a photographer took pictures of the "kiddies" receiving their gifts.

Refreshments were served when Santa had departed and it did not take long for the children to polish off all the ice cream, cake, cookies and chocolate milk available. It was a tired but happy group of children and parents which left the mess about supper and it appeared evident that they all had enjoyed themselves.

Thanks must go to the Royal Canadian Dragoons Women's Auxiliary who were responsible for packing and tagging the presents, bagging the candy and handling of the refreshments. It was their first big undertaking and they did a marvellous job. A thank you also goes to all those of the regiment who helped in no small way preparing seating accommodation, refreshment booths, and transportation to and from the married patch for the parents and kiddies. It was a job well done.

OLD COMRADES, QUEBEC . . .

(Continued from page 43)

Major Guy Savard is back in Montreal with the Canadian Liquid Air Co. after a tour of duty in Hong Kong. John Telfer and Dan Wilkie are with the same company. It would appear that the R.C.D. had a real carry over of comradeship from the war. Jack (paymaster) Hawblie is in the chief accountants office at the head office of the Bank of Montreal.

"Tick" Martin is with the Dept. of Agriculture and is much in demand as an M.C. for the "do's" at the various messes around town as well as at the South African Club.

As I said, there isn't as much news as we would like but we would welcome hearing from the lads, so drop us a line and keep an eye open for a get together in the fall.

R.C.D. OLD COMRADES' ASSOCIATION Annual Picnic

The annual Association picnic was held at Niagara-on-the-Lake on Saturday, 12th August, 1950. With weather specially provided by Sgt. Bert Gabb, of the weather bureau, some hundred and fifty men, women and children made the boat trip under beautiful sunny skies. Held at the Lions Club Park this year, it was not long before most of the children and a lot of their elders were in the water. Following a picnic lunch in the park, a varied programme of sports and novelty events were run off. Judges for the Sports were Col. R. S. Timmis, D.S.O., Fred Sturgess, Lorne Marks, Cy Shepherd, C. H. Smith, and Lloyd Mercer. The complete results are given below.

Girls under 5—1, Lyn Mercer; 2, Vandra Ward; 3, Kirsten Ward.

Boys under 5—1, Fraser Campbell; 2, Ken Lounds; 3, Bill Gerris.

Girls 5 to 7—1, Carol Jamieson; 2, Joyce Gerris; 3, Sharon Papps.

Boys 5 to 7—1, Barry Taylor; 2, Neal Dowdell; 3, Ian Campbell.

Girls 7 to 10—1, Ruth Anne Quibell; 2, Betty Clarke.

Boys 7 to 10—1, Lionel Gould; 2, Larry Reid.

Girls 10 to 14—1, Ruth Evelyn Harrison; 2, Sheila Dowdell; 3, Patsy Jamieson.

Boys 10 to 14—1, John Campbell; 2, Allan Angus; 3, Ken Winwood.

Ladies' Shoe Race—1, Rita McBurney; 2, Joan Campbell; 3, Edna Lewis.

Men's Shoe Race—1, Knobby Clark, Jr.; 2, Lorne Marks; 3, Gord Campbell.

3-legged Race, pairs—1, Lionel Gould, Rita McBurney; 2, Mr. and Mrs. Edwards; 3, Mr. and Mrs. Fertile.

Wheelbarrow Race, men and women—1, Mr. and Mrs. Fertile; 2, Mr. and Mrs. Gould; 3, Mrs. Dart and Lorne Marks.

Ladies' Sack Race—1, Phylis Kintner; 2, Clare Ward; 3, Mrs. Fertile.

Men's Sack Race—1, Len Dowdell; 2, Lorne Marks; 3, Ron Kentner.

Balloon Bursting Race—1, Mrs. Edwards; 2, Clare Ward; 3, Mrs. Stan Wallis.

Oldest Man on Grounds—Capt. Herring.

Lucky Draw Winner—Clare Ward.

During the afternoon, tickets were sold on a "Guess when it stopped" contest. In

this event, a clock had been wound up a week previously and then carefully wrapped. The ladies could guess what time it stopped, and during the supper hour, the clock was unwrapped and Mrs. Shepherd was the lucky winner. She said she would hang it in Cy's room to make sure he doesn't become the old "didn't know the time" any more type. While the bulk of the prizes went to members and their families, with the Campbells, Edwards, Fertiles and Marks clans predominating, it must be noted that one guest family, the Wards, who are recent arrivals from the Old Country, sailed for home with a fairly substantial bag.

Following the supper hour, Col. R. S. Timmis, D.S.O., very kindly presented the prizes assisted by Mrs. J. B. Harrison, the wife of the President.

Mr. G. Morgan and his wife contributed in a large measure to the success of the afternoon providing the children with gallons of ice cream as well as vast quantities of pop, peanuts, chocolate bars and such. Tea was always ready and hot when required, and there were quarts of milk of several colours for the children.

The main party left by boat for Toronto at 7.10 while a few of those who lived in the area of Niagara, remained for the evening. During the entire day, the facilities of the Canadian Legion were made available to all members of the Association and their friends.

* * *

Charlie Smith paid a visit to the Regiment during the summer whilst visiting his son R.S.M. (WO 1) Smith.

A small re-union was also arranged between Charlie Smith and Charlie Meeker. Charlie Meeker is still living near Deep River.

* * *

Paddy Lennon paid a brief visit to us in camp while he was visiting this part of the world during a holiday from New York City, where he now lives.

A STORY WITH TEETH IN IT*or***A New Recruit Makes His Debut to
"Society"**

A new recruit was overheard telling the following story about his "just as new" buddy, and although it was given in confidence it seems too good to waste.

Breaths of the late fall brought the youthful soldier to the point of asking one of the local young ladies for a date.

Excited parents watched the young couple go off for their night's fun, but taking into account that it was the young innocent's first date they decided to wait up or at least stay awake until she had returned to the parental fold.

At a very respectable hour (after all where can one go in Pembroke after 10.30 p.m.) the waiting parents exchanged consenting nods as they heard the front door open and close. Deathly quiet reigned downstairs for several minutes, then followed the sounds of a rather frantic scuffle and the quiet was broken by plaintive cries for help of the young daughter.

The parents dashed down the stairs to rescue their child only to be greeted by a tragic scene. The young couple, (the recruit still had his beret on the back of his head!) were locked in an unbreakable clinch by the braces of their teeth. A sleepy dentist hurriedly summoned, dissolved the dental combine.

No—it wasn't Tpr. Waterous!!

**ATTENTION
All R.C.D. Veterans**

The present serving members of the Regiment are very interested in maintaining contact with former members of the unit. We should like to keep you all informed of our activities and progress and at the same time would be interested in hearing how you are all making out in your civilian capacity.

We are slowly acquiring an accurate mailing list of all Old Comrades. However there are still a number of names and addresses which we do not have and would greatly appreciate any assistance which might help us to reach them.

We should also like to keep our present records up to date and would be grateful for notifications of changes of address. For those who live in or near Toronto or Montreal there are active associations of Old Comrades. The addresses of the secretaries are:

Mr. Geoffrey Williams
Old Comrades Association
Quebec Branch
417 Metcalfe Ave.
Westmount, Que.
Mr. J. B. Harrison
15 Kelvin Ave.
Toronto, Ont.

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PROFESSIONAL ADVANCEMENT

By CAPT. W. H. WILLIS, RCD

Benning was fed up. He had been detailed as Brigade Liaison Officer for a three month's tour. He hated leaving his troop as they were expecting an attack at any moment.

The GSO III was on leave and Benning, who hated office work and "bumph" and the constant clack of earphones on his ears, had to listen to the rear link and check vehicle, casualty and ammo reports.

The Brigadier was apprehensive and irritable and the Brigade Major was dog-tired and rather sarcastic.

About six in the evening our new LO could not stand it any longer—thinking about his troop, his tank, the fellowship. He felt out of place up here at Brigade.

Scrounging around he found an ammo return that needed some clarification. Here was a chance to get to the unit for a visit. The BM was really quite a decent type and knew that the lad was just itching to get away said "OK Ben, whip up and see them but get back before dark".

Benning leaped into his jeep and in minutes was squatted by his old tank chatting with the crew. He went over to Squadron HQ and clarified the squadrons ammo return. Major Boss, the Squadron

Leader asked him to stay for dinner, and after dinner sitting around with the officers listening to the regimental gossip, Benning wished that he'd never have to leave.*

There was a drone overhead as a swarm of enemy planes flew by.

"Looks as if someone's going to get it", said one of the officers.

"Cripes, I think it's Brigade HQ—look at the way they are flying in from the sun at them".

"That's OK, they have lots of slit trenches", said Benning.

The planes had dropped their loads and could be seen circling away like a flock of geese.

Just then the Adjutant chugged up in his jeep and looked in. "Hi fellows", he said as he paid his compliments, "looks like Brigade got it—there's smoke over yonder".

"Couldn't care less as long as it is the ACV they hit", said Benning, between gulps of canned beer, as he rose to leave.

About ten minutes after leaving, a very flustered Benning whirled up in his jeep and shouted: "For God's sake, fellows, keep mum about what I said, it was the bloody ACV. Tiny is wounded and I'm the Brigade Major."

He disappeared with a roar in a cloud of dust.

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OPERATION REDRAMP . . .

(Continued from page 31)

SC 135728 Tpr. M. K. Pierce
 SF 38680 Tpr. R. S. Atlas
 SG 135840 Tpr. G. G. Wentworth
 SC 102378 Tpr. J. Laplante
 SA 705 Tpr. T. C. Raeside
 SC 70690 Tpr. J. J. McGowan
 SB 153209 Tpr. M. H. Sullivan
 SB 149612 Tpr. D. C. Mitchell
 SD 190691 Tpr. G. L. Oram
 SB 153397 Tpr. R. G. Lenson
 SD 190757 Tpr. J. M. M. Chouinnard
 SB 153476 Tpr. K. C. Wood
 SG 9404 Tpr. W. A. McCracken
 SB 153707 Tpr. R. M. Shearer
 SM 6865 Tpr. H. C. Bingham
 SK 14238 Cpl. H. A. Clarke
 SA 106969 Sgt. H. W. Fergusson
 SB 105443 Sgt. J. Thomson
 SD 26323 Cpl. J. P. Arnold
 SA 42000 Cpl. T. A. Adair
 SB 119496 L/Cpl. W. Crawford
 SC 52103 L/Cpl. H. R. Williams
 SK 75252 L/Cpl. T. L. Williams
 SB 168612 Tpr. E. E. W. Andrews
 SB 153625 Tpr. J. M. Cameron
 SD 76983 Tpr. J. O. Forster
 SC 136211 Tpr. J. Douglas
 SD 190488 Tpr. R. L. Griffin
 SG 63 Tpr. J. G. Comeau
 SC 70579 Tpr. J. T. Sinnott
 SB 153042 Tpr. S. L. Patterson
 SB 61116 Tpr. L. R. Giroux
 SM 6916 Tpr. W. J. Chisholm
 SD 167391 Tpr. A. D. Ross
 SB 114868 Tpr. F. A. Mears
 SA 3841 Sgt. D. Harvey
 SF 36364 Cpl. D. C. Daidson
 SB 169426 Cpl. W. E. Kennedy
 SC 122783 L/Cpl. R. J. O'Coin
 SB 153391 Pte. G. W. Burns
 SH 60263 Pte. E. M. Gurnik
 SB 153390 Pte. W. H. Middaugh
 SF 87492 Pte. G. C. Carrier
 SB 153158 Pte. R. J. Curran
 SK 14284 Pte. J. D. Ross



A U.S. Marine Reservist ordered to report for active duty by 8 a.m. Aug. 5, wired for an extension so he could train a replacement for his job. He was granted until 9 a.m. Aug. 5.

W. L. MULVIHILL

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The Army Benevolent Fund

By H/CAPT. R. C. H. DURNFORD, D.S.O. CHAPLAIN (P)

Although the Army Benevolent Fund has long become an established institution there are still a large number of people ignorant of its existence and purpose. We therefore feel that this article by H/Major R. C. H. Durnford, D.S.O., Chaplain (P) of Petawawa Military Camp will be of real value to many of our readers.

Questions relating to this Fund are continually being asked and criticisms levelled at its seeming shortcomings. The purpose of this brief article is to state the criticisms, or the questions, being asked in connection with the operation of this Fund and, so far as is possible, within the limits of space allowed, to answer them.

QUESTION 1: *How did this Fund come into being?*

The Army Benevolent Fund is unique among the efforts put forward hitherto to help ex-service men and soldiers of the regular army who served during World War II in that it was accumulated during war years by veterans themselves out of profits from Army messes and canteens to the tune of nearly \$9,000,000. It has been set aside by Act of Parliament to ensure that for the next fifty years a means of emergency help will be available to persons who served in Canada's Army during the Second World War, or their dependents.

QUESTION 2: *Why did Parliament go to all the trouble involved over this sum of surplus money instead of "divvyng up" and giving everybody a share?*

Such a distribution would have resulted in everybody getting only a few dollars apiece, whereas under its present management the Fund is reserved for needy veterans, in or out of the Army, who, through no fault of their own, find themselves desperately in need of financial assistance.

Five dollars apiece might have been ours if the "divvy up" policy had been decided on, but, whereas \$5.00 apiece would not

mean a great deal to any of us, the same would not be true of a family hard-up against it who, under the present method, might receive One Hundred Dollars, or more. To such a family it might mean everything.

QUESTION 3: *Does it replace the help of existing welfare agencies?*

No. The Army Benevolent Fund stands ready to help, but only as an auxiliary to the regular machinery of governmental and private agencies, and if no other source of help is available.

QUESTION 4: *What does the Board, which examines every application for assistance, regard as a "deserving case"?*

If the applicant can establish a genuine case of need brought about, that is to say, by no fault of his own, such as living beyond his means, or by a consistent refusal to try to help himself, the Board would undoubtedly regard that applicant as "deserving".

Some men show a tendency not to be able to profit from Army Benevolent Fund aid. Their troubles are chronic. To help such men would result only in encouraging them to "go into the hole" again. Unless there is evidence that the assistance asked for will give some assurance of a permanent solution, no help is given however high your bills may be.

QUESTION 5: *What is the procedure for making application for some help from this Fund?*

The applicant will find, through his Unit officers, who the Agent is to whom he may state his case. At the time of writing there are two in Camp Petawawa. (The Padre is not one of them). If the Agent feels the applicant has a good case, and one which the Board would consider, he will give the applicant a form to fill in and will help him, if necessary, to complete it. From thereon the application will be sent to Toronto and

the results will be forwarded to both Agent and applicant.

An appeal to reconsider an adverse judgment is made possible.

QUESTION 6: *Does the applicant receive cash with which to meet the bills which are the cause of his temporary distress?*

No. The form which the applicant fills in requires him to state his income and expenditures and to enumerate his debts and what efforts, if any, have been made to pay them in those instances of a long standing nature.

If the application for help is approved those bills will be paid in whole or in part to the creditors direct and not to the applicant.

QUESTION 7: *What categories exist under which any man in genuine need may apply for help?*

There are many such categories. We state some of them, though there are limits in each of them which space does not allow the writer to elaborate upon here—the Agent must do that in the course of his interview with the applicant for assistance under any of the following categories.

- (A) (i) Medical treatment and care for dependents. This covers anticipated expenses or bills already incurred and not paid.
- (ii) Remedial treatment for crippled children.
- (iii) Doctors fees and hospitalization.
- (B) Dental care for dependents (where no other source of help is available).
- (C) Burial expenses for dependents.
- (D) Long-standing debts.
- (E) Educational purposes—limited to \$180 per year.
- (F) Calamity (i.e. fire, flood, death, etc.).

Finally, and by way of repetition, the Fund exists to help in the payment of essential expenditures only.

There is no limit to the amount or to the number of grants per individual, both being based on merits.

No loans are permissible.

The Administration is by a Board of five members—three are Government nominees, the other two are nominated by the Canadian Legion and National Council of Veteran Associations in Canada. They serve without salary and are completely independent of the Government.

SILVER DART CONSERVATION . . .

(Continued from page 22)

the fourth year buildup of their ten year cycle. The season opened on Saturday, 7 Oct., and many hunters were out, but returned reporting very poor results, perhaps the birds are hiding in the bush close to the swamps during this warm spell of weather; wherever they are they are seldom seen near the roads. Due to the severe winter weather up here and the fact that none of the area is under cultivation, there is little we can do as far as bird restocking or introduction is concerned. It isn't very good duck country either, but some of the marshy areas of a couple of lakes could be planted with wild rice and celery and perhaps improve conditions for the ducks, it may be worth a try.

In closing, I'm sure you readers will agree that this club is a worthwhile organization, judging from what has been accomplished in our first year of operation. It won't be long till the camp sportsman can fish with successful results in the inland waters here rather than having to fish the Ottawa all the time. Success for the sportsmen who will live and hunt and fish here in the future has been the result of considerable interest and hard work on the part of several original members. The Club has also assisted the Department of Lands and Forests in the promotion of conservation and education, and an appreciation of the common sense behind the fish and game laws of the Province of Ontario.

THE UNITED STATES CAVALRY . . .

(Continued from page 12)

The absence of wood and water meant no cooked meals for the soldiers: lack of grass meant hunger for their horses. They certainly knew the full meaning of the words hardship and privation, did Uncle Sam's soldiers of those days.

In the great Civil War of the eighteen sixties American cavalymen, whether wearing the blue uniforms of the Northern States, the "Federals", or the homespun grey of the Southerners, the "Confederates", played a very active part. At the end of the war the cavalry of the Northern States is said to have numbered 80,000 horsemen.

"The brilliant, in some cases extraordinary, services that large bodies of both Federal and Southern cavalry, fighting for the most part equally well on foot as on horseback, rendered to their respective sides have long been matters of history, and certainly serve to show that the contending parties originated and developed a system of working cavalry which was capable, under some conditions, of producing the greatest results. Who that has read the accounts of what mounted troops—call them cavalry, or call them mounted rifles, as you will—achieved in America can deny their great usefulness and efficiency? Though these successes of the American horsemen were patent to all the world, the cavalry of Europe steadfastly shut its eyes to obvious facts, and failed to benefit by the cheapest experience of all—viz, that obtained at the expense of others." So wrote a British officer, Colonel F. Chenevix-Trench, in his book "Cavalry in Modern War", published in 1884. Had the Germans taken notice of the lessons of the American Civil War, they would have been spared "the Death Ride of Mars-la-Tour" in the Franco-German War of 1870. It was officers who had studied and absorbed the lessons of the American Civil War who became the successful leaders of our own Cavalry, Mounted Rifle, and Mounted Infantry units which did such

good work in the Boer War.

Incidentally, the Civil War provided the unique spectacle of a battle between a cavalry regiment and a warship! It came about in this way. News having been received that a Northern gunboat was being despatched up the Cumberland River to Canton, to destroy a Confederate store depot, General Forrest took a regiment of cavalry and, after a night march of thirty miles, reached the threatened point before the gunboat put in its appearance. He ordered the men to dismount and take cover among the trees, behind hastily erected breastworks of logs. When the gunboat arrived Forrest's men, all good marksmen, opened fire upon her at such short range that they were well able to pick off, through the open port-holes, men working on her lower deck, as well as those on the upper deck. Having sustained heavy losses from the sudden and accurate fire of the Confederate cavalymen, and badly shaken by this unexpectedly warm reception, the gunboat's crew lost no time in withdrawing her from the scene, leaving the store depot unharmed, and General Forrest's cavalymen in the proud position of being able to say that they could beat the enemy's navy as well as his army!

In the years which followed the Civil War, the U.S. Cavalry regiments were kept busy by the 300,000 redskin warriors who still roamed the plains. Many of these were armed with repeating rifles of a more up-to-date type than the U.S. soldiers. 1,200 cavalry and 1,400 infantry were all that General Sheridan had available to keep order in the Indian Territories.

The story of the gallant last stand of the 7th U.S. Cavalry under the command of General Custer in the disastrous battle of the Little Big Horn is almost as well known in Great Britain as the story of the somewhat similar last stand of our own 24th Regiment at Isandhlwana in the Zulu War. Less well known on this side of the Atlantic is the story of Custer's expedition against Black Kettle's camp, in the winter of 1868,

when he took that very gallant regiment, the 7th U.S. Cavalry, from Camp Supply, Oklahoma, up the Washita Valley, knowing that the winter weather would cause the Indians to assemble in sufficient numbers to enable a really effective blow to be struck, at a time when they would least expect a domiciliary visit from the white soldiers. Custer and his men set out at four o'clock on the morning of November 23rd, 1868, in a blinding snowstorm, on that manhood-proving march. They had to move entirely by compass bearings, the snow having obliterated all landmarks; some men became casualties through snow-blindness or frostbite, but had to be kept awake, lest they should fall asleep and freeze to death. At last they reached their objective. Just as dawn was breaking they rode into the Indian camp, killing and capturing many Indians. While the destruction of the camp was being completed, crowds of Indian warriors were seen approaching. Quickly forming into a rough semi-circle round the camp, Custer's men soon found themselves engaged in a fierce combat with 2,000 Kiowas, Arapahoes, and Comanches, from nearby camps whose existence had hitherto been unsuspected. Things were beginning to look bad when the ammunition began to run low, and many of the men who had discarded their greatcoats and could not recover them were suffering terribly from the cold as action resolved itself into a fire-fight with both sides firing from cover. The situation was saved by Major Bell, the Quartermaster, who drove a wagon-load of ammunition right through the enemy's lines so that the 7th should be able to maintain their fire, which they did to such good purpose that the redskins

withdrew under cover of darkness and allowed the weary column to make its way back to its quarters, an arduous journey, with the temperature several degrees below freezing point, in which the hardships suffered by the soldiers were probably as bad as those endured by Napoleon's men in the retreat from Moscow.

The bravery and determination of the 1st and 10th U.S. Cavalry, (Regulars) and the 1st U.S. Volunteer Cavalry (Roosevelt's Rough Riders) in the attack on San Juan Hill during the Spanish-American War of 1898 is one of the treasured memories of the American Army. In this war, mainly fought in tropical jungles like those of Burma, the U.S. Cavalry fought on foot.

Two troops of the Sixth U.S. Cavalry served alongside British troops with the International Force which relieved the Legations at Peking during the Boxer Rising in China, 1900.

During the period of the first World War the bulk of America's cavalrymen were at first engaged on active service along the Mexican border, but officers and men were soon assigned to duty with units of the big American Expeditionary Force which was being built up for service in France, on which duty many of them distinguished themselves.

In World War II the United States Cavalry, who had been mechanized, just as our own Cavalry regiments had been absorbed into the Royal Armoured Corps, played a prominent part in the Pacific Campaign, fully maintaining their high reputation for courage and fighting spirit as they drove the Japanese out of one island stronghold after another.

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